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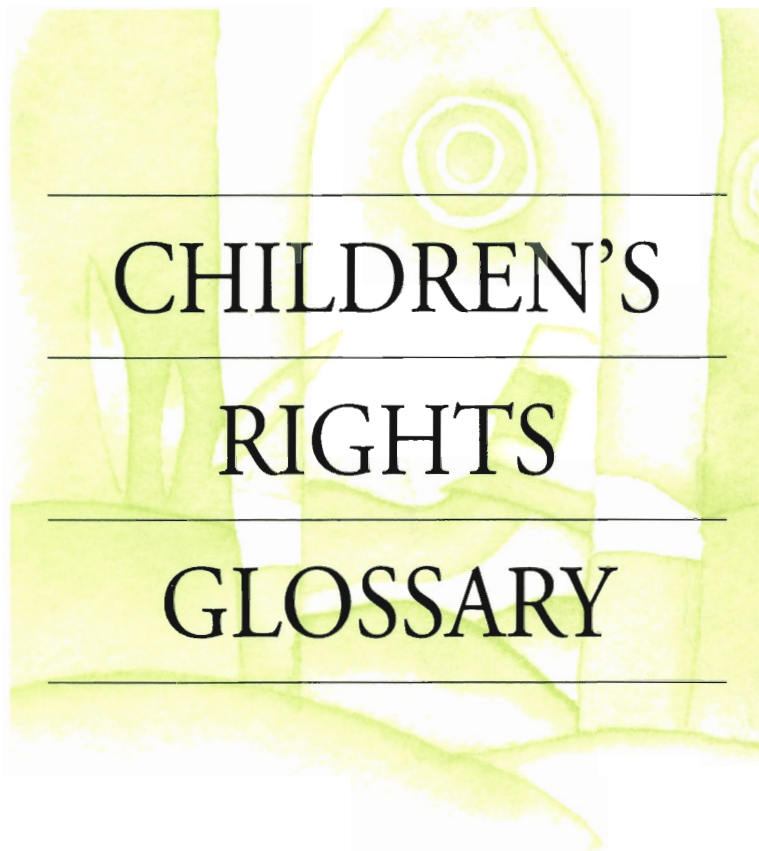

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS GLOSSARY

unicef

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Foreword

The Committee on the Rights of the Child, the treaty body responsible for monitoring the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child, recognized at its first meeting in 1991 that its effectiveness would depend essentially on the access it had to all relevant sources of information. At the same time, it was acutely aware that unless it had an efficient system for handling information it might be overwhelmed by the sheer volume of data it needed to consider.

By 1991, the Convention was already well on the way to becoming the most widely ratified of all human rights treaties. This was an exhilarating success for the entire children's rights community, but one that brought with it serious workload implications for the newly convened Committee. It would, first of all, be required to handle an unprecedented number of country reports. Under Article 44 of the Convention, States Parties must submit a comprehensive initial report to the Committee within two years of ratification and thereafter every five years. Second, in order to arrive at a meaningful evaluation of these reports, the Committee needed to consider additional information provided by the specialized agencies, UNICEF and "other competent bodies" – including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) – who, under Article 45, may be invited to report to the Committee on aspects of children's rights, falling within their respective mandates. Third, the Committee also planned to review data emerging from reports that States Parties had already submitted to other treaty bodies.

At its second session the Committee recommended that a centralized information and documentation unit, including a computerized database, be created within the then Centre for Human Rights for use by all treaty bodies. It set up a working group to consider what system of information and documentation was best suited to its work and to identify the specific areas that needed to be covered by the system. The working group recognized that, as far as possible, this database should be compatible with information systems already in operation within other specialized agencies and regional and non-governmental organizations. It also stressed the importance of close collaboration with other actors in the human rights field in order to establish a computerized network of information.

In the early 1990s, international organizations, individually and collectively, were also looking seriously at how they could best provide information support to the Committee. A first collaborative effort was a workshop on NGO information systems on children's rights, convened in 1992 by Defence for Children International (DCI) (Geneva), with the active participation of Rädda Barnen (Stockholm), the UNICEF International Child Development Centre (ICDC, now known as the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence) and UNICEF Geneva. The idea was launched at this workshop of forming a network of organizations interested in pooling their documentation resources and participating in a data exchange system. It was immediately evident that there was both considerable interest in creating such an integrated system of information and documentation and the will to work together to achieve that end.

In October 1993 the Committee requested UNICEF to convene a consultative meeting on information systems for children's rights. At this workshop, the Committee made known the kinds of information it needed and, also outlined its plans on how it intended to share information about the monitoring process. It had, for instance, taken steps to ensure that, in each reporting country, the United Nations Information Centre, or in its absence, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) country office, make both the country report and the Committee's summary records relating to the examination of this report freely available to the general public. The Centre for Human Rights (now the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) organized a follow-up to this meeting in 1994 during which significant interest was shown in building up an integrated system of information and documentation. Reporting to the General Assembly on the meeting (Doc. A/49/41 19/05/94, point 411), the Committee commented that "it was particularly encouraging to see that the rights of the child had paved the way for a constructive dialogue between the different bodies of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and the Committee in such a decisive field as that of information".

In 1994, DCI, Rädda Barnen, ICDC and UNICEF Geneva decided to form a 'facilitating group' to promote the creation of a Child Rights Information Network. This propelling group was later expanded to include the International Children's Centre (Paris), the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Geneva), the International Save the Children Alliance (Geneva), Save the Children (London), and the then United Nations Centre for Human Rights (Geneva). In July 1995, a three-day meeting was organized in Paris at the International Children's Centre to discuss the network. At this meeting, 50 organizations, from every part of the world and at national, regional and international levels, agreed to establish the Child Rights Information Network (CRIN) part of whose purpose is:

> To support child rights organizations in their endeavours to develop effective information systems and methods of information exchange, using both electronic and non-electronic and networking tools (Child Rights Information Network Newsletter, Issue No.1, January 1996.)

Developing internationally agreed information-handling tools that can strengthen access to data and effective information exchange is an important part of this commitment. Two such tools are the International Children's Rights Thesaurus *and its companion* Children's Rights Glossary *developed within the context of CRIN by the UNICEF International Child Development Centre. Work on these tools was originally led by an international working group made up of representatives from Defence for Children International, the Documentation Centre of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Human Rights Internet, the then United Nations Centre for Human Rights, Rädda Barnen UNICEF ICDC (now IRC) and UNICEF Geneva. This original group later evolved into a smaller 'terminology' group made up of information professionals from Rädda Barnen and UNICEF ICDC, Geneva and New York. Work on the Thesaurus and Glossary was subsequently undertaken by an international thesaurus expert, Anne Di Lauro, and Sharon Detrick, an international jurist and children's rights specialist.*

In information science, a thesaurus enables information-handlers to use a common, 'controlled' language when processing information on a given subject which, in turn, allows for accurate information retrieval and exchange internationally. The Thesaurus is intended to be used with the Children's Rights Glossary, *which provides a detailed key to the specialized terminology of children's rights, and particularly the terminology contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. First drafts of the Thesaurus and the Glossary were widely distributed for review. The comments received confirmed the need for this iniative, as well as the potential for this work to serve as the basis for capacity building in information handling for the rights of the child. Indeed, a third information tool - a* Children's Rights Bibliography - *has been developed by the Centre with, amongst others, the aim of assisting modestly resourced documentation centres in establishing a basic reference library in children's rights.*

The Thesaurus is trilingual with separate editions in English, French and Spanish. The Glossary was compiled in English and has been translated and adapted into French and Spanish. It is our hope that by providing a common language for the exchange of information, these tools will help to facilitate communications and collaboration among the many actors working for the realization of children's rights wherever their entry point into the information system may be.

Mehr Khan
Director
UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre

Introduction

As explained in the Foreword, this Children's Rights Glossary is published as a companion volume to the International Children's Rights Thesaurus, *also developed by the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (IRC). It aims to provide a detailed key to the specialized terminology used in children's rights, and particularly in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Although both the Glossary and the Thesaurus are intended as information-handling tools for information professionals, it is hoped that the Glossary will also be useful in promoting a better understanding of children's rights terminology amongst a non-specialist audience.*

Except for obvious exceptions, such as the "Right to life" and the "Right to be heard", the terms in the Glossary are not formulated as rights. For example, under the term "Education", the article of the Convention dealing with the right of the child to education is mentioned ("CRC:"), and a short description is given of the corresponding obligations of States Parties ("Note:"), followed by a listing of those terms in the Glossary also related to the right of the child to education ("See also:"). Certain terms have been included as "lead-in" terms only to preferred synonyms. For instance, the reader searching under the term "Handicapped children", will be referred ("See:") to "Disabled children".

The alphabetical listing is preceded by a thematic listing, which is intended to provide the user with an overview of the main subject matters dealt with in the Convention and the corresponding terms included in the Glossary. The Glossary concludes with a thematic listing of selected international instruments relevant to children's rights.

The Glossary has been developed by the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre together with Sharon Detrick. Dr. Sharon Detrick is the founding director of Children's Rights Consultancy International (CRCI), based in Voorschoten, the Netherlands. CRCI offers consultancy services in the area of children's rights in the Netherlands and internationally. She compiled and edited the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: A Guide to the "Travaux Préparatoires" *(1992) and is the author of* A Commentary on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child *(1999). She is editor of* the International Children's Rights Monitor, *the news magazine of Defence for Children International, published in co-operation with Kluwer Law International.*

The author would like to acknowledge the support of Nigel Cantwell and Patricia Light in preparing this Glossary. She is also particularly grateful to the following persons for their observations and advice on earlier drafts: Peggy Creese, Paolo David, Marie-Pierre Poirier, Rita Reddy, Rebecca Rios-Kohn, Karin Rydberg and Laura Theytaz-Bergman.

A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS GLOSSARY

Thematic Listing

Definition of the child

Definition of the child
Majority
Minimum age(s)
Unborn child

Children's rights

Best interests of the child
Civil and political rights
Discrimination
Discrimination and punishment
Economic, social and cultural rights
Equal opportunities
Evolving capacities of the child
Respect for the views of the child

Civil rights and freedoms

Appropriate information
Birth registration
Children's books
Correspondence
Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
Disappearances
Enter a country
Family relations
Freedom of assembly
Freedom of association
Freedom of conscience
Freedom of expression
Freedom of information
Freedom of religion
Honour and reputation
Identity
Information and international co-operation
Information and linguistic minority children
Leave a country
Mass media
Name
Nationality
Preservation of identity
Privacy
Respect for family
Respect for home
Right to be heard
Right to life
Statelessness
Torture
Trade unions

Family environment and alternative care

Abuse and neglect
Adoption
Alternative care
Children deprived of their family environment
Community
Contact with both parents
Equality of parents
Extended family
Family assistance
Family reunification
Foster placement
Illicit transfer and non-return
Information on absent parent(s) or child
Injurious information
Inter-country adoption
Kafala
Know one's parents
Maintenance obligations
National adoption
Parental care
Parental guidance
Parental responsibilities
Periodic review of placement
Placement in institutions
Recovery and reintegration
Recovery of maintenance
Separation from parent(s)
Sexual abuse

Basic health and welfare

Accident prevention
Adequate nutrition
Adequate standard of living
Breast-feeding
Care of children
Child-care
Child health and nutrition
Child marriage
Child mortality
Disease
Drug abuse
Environmental sanitation
Family planning
Guidance for parents
Health and health services
Health and international co-operation
Health care
Health education
Hygiene
Ignorance
Illiteracy
Infant mortality
Malnutrition
Material assistance
Medical assistance
Post-natal health care
Pre-natal health care
Preventive health care
Primary health care
Protection of children
Social insurance
Social security
Standards of care
Standards of protection
Survival and development
Traditional practices

Education, leisure and cultural activities

Aims of education
Compulsory education
Cultural life
Drop-out rates
Education
Education and international co-operation
Education assistance
Educational guidance
Educational institutions
Free education
General education
Higher education
Leisure
Modern teaching methods
Primary education
Recreation
School attendance
School discipline
Science and technology
Secondary education
Vocational education
Vocational guidance

Child justice and deprivation of liberty

Access to court
Accusations
Accused children
Administration of juvenile justice
Appeal
Arrest
Assistance of an interpreter
Capital punishment
Children deprived of their liberty
Convicted children
Defence
Deprivation of liberty
Detention
Determination of criminal charges
Determination of lawfulness of detention
Diversions
Due process
Examination of witnesses
Fair trial
Imprisonment
Independent and impartial authority
Judicial body
Judicial review
Juvenile justice
Juvenile offenders
Legal assistance
Life imprisonment
Minimum age for criminal responsibility
Non-custodial measures
Nullum crimen sine lege
Offence
Prevention of juvenile delinquency
Presumption of innocence
Privacy of accused children
Procedures
Prompt legal assistance
Prompt trial
Self-incriminating evidence
Separation from adult prisoners
Treatment of accused children
Treatment of children deprived of their liberty
Treatment of convicted children
Trial in the presence of legal assistance
Trial in the presence of parents

Child labour

Child labour
Conditions of employment
Economic exploitation
Enforcement of child labour standards
Harmful work
Hazardous work
Hours of employment
Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Exploitation of children

Abduction
Bonded labour
Child pornography
Child prostitution
Drug production
Drug trafficking
Economic exploitation
Enforcement of child labour standards
Exploitation
Forced labour
Hours of employment
Minimum age(s) for admission to employment
Organ trafficking
Recovery and reintegration
Sale and trafficking
Sexual exploitation
Slavery

Rights of children living under especially difficult circumstances

Accused children
Children born out of wedlock
Children deprived of their family environment
Children deprived of their liberty
Convicted children
Internally displaced children

Disabled children

Disabled assistance
Disabled children
Disabled children and international co-operation

Refugee children

Accompanied refugee children
Family tracing
Humanitarian assistance
International humanitarian law
Refugee-assisting organizations
Refugee children
Refugee protection
Refugee status
Unaccompanied refugee children
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Children in armed conflicts

Child prisoners of war
Children in armed conflicts
Humanitarian assistance
International humanitarian law
Participation in hostilities
Recovery and reintegration
Recruitment

Minority and indigenous children

Ethnic minority children
Indigenous children
Linguistic minority children
Minority children
Religious minority children

Promotion, implementation and monitoring of children's rights

Applicability
Committee on the Rights of the Child
Competent bodies
Developing countries
Domestic implementation
Dissemination of CRC
Dissemination of reports
Drittwirkung
Economic and Social Council
General Assembly
Incorporation
Indicators
Inter-governmental organizations
International co-operation
Jurisdiction
Non-governmental organizations
Obligation of States
Reporting obligations
Restrictions of rights
Saving clause
Technical advice and assistance
Transformation
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations organs
United Nations specialized agencies
United Nations studies

Final provisions

Accession
Amendments
Authentic texts
Denunciation
Depositary
Entry into force
Ratification
Reservations
Signature

GLOSSARY ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Alphabetical Listing

Abandoned children

See: Children deprived of their family environment

Abduction

CRC: Art. 35

Note: The right of the child to protection against abduction is set forth in Article 35 of the CRC. States Parties are required to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the abduction of children for any purpose or in any form. The abduction of children is to be distinguished from the illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad (see Article 11 of the CRC). The abduction of children within one country or across frontiers for the purposes of, for example, economic exploitation, sexual exploitation, sale, trafficking or adoption is a form of exploitation. The illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad refers to the problem of the abduction of children across frontiers by one of their parents.

See also: Disappearances / Exploitation / Illicit transfer and non-return / Recovery and reintegration / Sale and trafficking

Abolition of traditional practices

See: Traditional practices

Abortion

See: Unborn child

Abuse and neglect

CRC: Art. 19

Note: The right of the child to be protected from abuse and neglect is set forth in Article 19 of the CRC. States Parties are required to take all appropriate measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.

See also: Recovery and reintegration / Sexual abuse

Access to court

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have the criminal charge or allegation examined by a competent, independent and impartial authority or judicial body is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iii) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Defence / Determination of criminal charges / Determination of lawfulness of detention

Access to culture

See: Cultural life

Access to education

See: Education

Access to information

See: Accusations / Appropriate information / Children's books / Educational guidance / Freedom of expression / Freedom of information / Information and international co-operation / Information and linguistic minority children / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Injurious information / Mass media / Vocational guidance

Accession

CRC: Art. 48

Note: Article 47 of the CRC provides that the CRC is subject to ratification, and Article 48 provides that the CRC remains open for accession by any State. To become a Party to the CRC, a State must therefore either ratify or accede to the CRC. Ratification and accession both refer to the act whereby the competent authorities of the State express their consent to be bound by the CRC. The only difference is that ratification applies to those States that have signed the CRC and accession applies to those States that have not. The instruments of ratification or accession are to be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. As at 10 March 1995, the CRC had been ratified or acceded to by 170 States.

See also: Denunciation / Depositary / Entry into force / Ratification / Signature

Accident prevention

CRC: Art. 24(2)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of accident prevention or child safety.

See also: Health and health services / Health education

Accompanied refugee children

CRC: Art. 22

Note: Article 22 of the CRC accords special rights to children who are seeking refugee status outside the country of their nationality or former habitual residence or who are considered a refugee in accordance with applicable international or domestic law and procedures, whether accompanied or unaccompanied by their parents or by any other person.

See also: Refugee children / Refugee status / Unaccompanied refugee children

Accusations

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(ii)

Note: Article 40(2)(b)(ii) accords to the accused child the right to be informed promptly and directly of the charges against him or her.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Assistance of an interpreter / Defence / Due process / Fair trial

Accused children

CRC: Art. 40

Note: Article 40 of the CRC accords special rights to children alleged as or accused of having infringed the penal law.

See also: Access to court / Accusations / Administration of juvenile justice / Assistance of an interpreter / Capital punishment / Convicted children / Defence / Determination of criminal charges / Due process / Examination of witnesses / Fair trial / Independent and impartial authority / Judicial body / Legal assistance / Life imprisonment / Nullum crimen sine lege / Offence / Presumption of innocence / Privacy of accused children / Prompt trial / Self-incriminating evidence / Treatment of accused children / Trial in the presence of legal assistance / Trial in the presence of parents

Adequate nutrition

CRC: Art. 27(1)(3)

Note: For the implementation of the right of every child to an adequate standard of living, States Parties are required to provide material assistance and support programmes for families in need, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

See also: Adequate standard of living / Child health and nutrition / Malnutrition / Material assistance / Survival and development

Adequate standard of living

CRC: Art. 27(1)(2)(3)

Note: The right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, men-

tal, spiritual, moral and social development is recognized in Article 27 of the CRC.

See also: Adequate nutrition / Family assistance / Maintenance obligations / Material assistance / Survival and development

Administration of juvenile justice

CRC: Art. 40

Note: Article 40 of the CRC deals with the obligations of States Parties concerning the administration of juvenile justice. Of particular relevance to the implementation of this provision are the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (1985), known as the Beijing Rules. Noteworthy are also the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (1990) and the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (1990).

See also: Access to court / Accusations / Accused children / Appeal / Assistance of an interpreter / Convicted children / Defence / Determination of criminal charges / Diversions / Due process / Examination of witnesses / Fair trial / Independent and impartial authority / Judicial body / Juvenile delinquency / Juvenile justice / Juvenile offenders / Legal assistance / Minimum age for criminal responsibility / Non-custodial measures / Nullum crimen sine lege / Offence / Presumption of innocence / Prevention of juvenile delinquency / Privacy of accused children / Prompt trial / Self-incriminating evidence / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of convicted children / Trial in the presence of legal assistance / Trial in the presence of parents

Adoption

CRC: Art. 20(3); Art. 21

Note: Adoption is an alternative means of care for children permanently deprived of their family environment. Full adoption aims to provide such a child with all of the rights relating to his or her adoptive parents as if the child had been born to them. In addition, it places on the adoptive parents equal parental responsibility to that of biological parents. Article 21 of the CRC provides that the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration in adoption, and deals with the safeguards and standards to be ensured by those States Parties that recognize and/or permit the system of adoption, covering both national adoption and inter-country adoption.

See also: Alternative care / Children deprived of their family environment / Inter-country adoption / Judicial review / National adoption / Procedures

Age of majority

See: Majority

Age restrictions

See: Definition of the child / Capital punishment / Life imprisonment / Minimum age for criminal responsibility / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment / Participation in hostilities / Recruitment

Aims of education

CRC: Art. 29(1)

Note: States Parties agree that the basic aims of the education of children are the development of the child's personality, talents, mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential and the preparation of the child for a responsible life. Education should also be directed to the development of respect for the child's parents, his or her own cultural identity, language and values and for the national values of the country in which the child is living and of the country from which the child may originate, and to the development of respect for different civilizations and the natural environment.

See also: Education / Educational institutions

Alien children

See: Discrimination / Obligation of States / Refugee children

Alternative care

CRC: Art. 20(2)(3)

Note: Article 20(2) of the CRC accords to children temporarily or permanently deprived of their family environment, or in whose own best interests cannot be allowed to remain in that environment, the right to alternative care. States Parties are required to ensure alternative care for such children in accordance with their national laws. Article 20(3) of the CRC provides that alternative care could include, inter alia, foster placement, kafala of Islamic law, adoption or if necessary placement in suitable institutions for the care of children.

See also: Adoption / Children deprived of their family environment / Foster placement / Judicial review / Kafala / Periodic review of placement / Placement in institutions / Procedures

Alternative sentencing

See: Non-custodial measures

Alternatives to criminal proceedings

See: Diversions

Amendments

CRC: Art. 50

Note: The rules of international treaty law concerning the amendment or modification of treaties are set forth in Articles 39 to 41 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969). These rules apply unless the treaty itself contains different provisions. The provisions of the CRC concerning amendments are set forth in Article 50 of the CRC, which deals with the procedure by which States Parties can propose and adopt amendments to the CRC, and with the binding effect of amendments accepted by two-thirds majority of States Parties.

See also: Denunciation / Depositary / Reservations

Appeal

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(v)

Note: Article 40(2)(b)(v) accords to the convicted child the right to have his or her case and any measures imposed in consequence thereof reviewed by a higher competent, independent and impartial authority or judicial body according to law.

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Convicted children

Applicability

Note: The possibility for children to invoke the rights set forth in the CRC before a domestic court or administrative tribunal. The direct applicability of a right is possible if a State Party allows for such applicability and if the right is sufficiently clear and precise to be regarded as addressing itself both to the State Party and to the subjects of domestic law.

See also: Domestic implementation / Drittwirkung / Incorporation / Transformation

Appropriate information

CRC: Art. 17

Note: The right of the child to have access to appropriate information is set forth in Article 17 of the CRC. In recognition of the important function performed by the mass media, States Parties are required to ensure that the child has access to information and material from a diversity of national and international sources, especially those aimed at the promotion of his or her well-being and health.

See also: Children's books / Freedom of expression / Freedom of information / Information and international co-operation / Information and linguistic minority children / Injurious information / Mass media

Arbitrary deprivation of liberty

See: Arrest / Deprivation of liberty / Detention / Imprisonment

Arbitrary executions

See: Right to life

Armed conflicts

See: Children in armed conflicts

Arrest

CRC: Art. 37(b)

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to unlawful or arbitrary arrest, and the legal guarantee that arrest be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate time are set forth in Article 37(b) of the CRC.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Deprivation of liberty

Arrested children

See: Children deprived of their liberty

Assembly

See: Freedom of assembly

Assistance

See: Assistance of an interpreter / Children deprived of their family environment / Disabled assistance / Education assistance / Family assistance / Humanitarian assistance / Legal assistance / Material assistance / Preservation of identity / Prompt legal assistance

Assistance of an interpreter

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(vi)

Note: The right of the accused child to the free assistance of an interpreter if the child cannot understand or speak the language used is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(vi) of the CRC.

See also: Accusations / Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Defence / Due process / Fair trial

Association

See: Freedom of association

Asylum

See: Refugee children

Authentic texts

CRC: Art. 54

Note: The original text of the CRC was established as authentic and definitive in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. This means that the authenticated texts of the CRC in these languages are equally authoritative. The terms of the CRC are therefore presumed to have the same meaning in each authentic text. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, as the depositary of the CRC, has the function of keeping custody of the original text of the CRC. The rules of international treaty law concerning the authentication of the text of a treaty are set forth in Articles 10 and 33 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969).

See also: Depositary

Best interests of the child

CRC: Art. 3(1)

Note: Article 3(1) of the CRC obligates States Parties to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies. Article 3(1) contains a principle of interpretation which has to be considered in all actions concerning children. It therefore operates as a principle to be considered in relation to the implementation of each of the rights set forth the CRC and, residually, to all actions concerning children. Important to note is that Article 21 of the CRC provides that the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration in adoption.

See also: Discrimination / Evolving capacities of the child / Respect for the views of the child

Birth

See: Birth registration / Children born out of wedlock / Discrimination / Name

Birth registration

CRC: Art. 7(1)

Note: The right of the child to be registered immediately after birth is set forth in Article 7(1) of the CRC. The purpose of this right is to promote recognition and protection of the child's legal personality. Registration of birth is regarded as one of the most effective methods of protecting the child's identity. It can reduce the danger of abduction, sale of or traffic in children, and can facilitate the tracing of the parents or other family members of unaccompanied refugee children. Birth registration of refugee children born in host States is also of importance because it enables date and place of birth to be conclusively established, thereby activating certain rights, including those rights which are dependent upon nationality and personal status.

See also: Name / Preservation of identity

Bonded labour

Note: Debt bondage or bonded labour is an abuse analogous to slavery in which individuals are pledged to work either for a money lender or a landlord to repay a debt or loan. It applies to children who work either for a money lender or for a landowner as bonded labourers to pay off the debts of family members. Article 32 of the CRC dealing with protection against economic exploitation can be invoked. Bonded labour or debt bondage is defined by Article 1(a) of the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956) as "the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services or of those of a person under his control as security for a debt, if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined."

See also: Child labour / Economic exploitation / Exploitation / Slavery

Breast-feeding

CRC: Art. 24(2)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of the advantages of breast-feeding.

See also: Child health and nutrition / Health and health services / Health education / Malnutrition

Capital punishment

CRC: Art. 37(a)

Note: Article 37(a) prohibits States Parties from imposing capital punishment for offences committed by persons below the age of 18 years.

See also: Accused children / Convicted children / Life imprisonment / Right to life

Care of children

CRC: Art. 3(2); Art. 18(2)

Note: Article 3(2) of the CRC obligates States Parties to ensure the child such care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her. In addition, under Article 18(2), States Parties are required

to ensure the development of institutions, facilities and services for the care of children.

See also: Childcare / Protection of children / Standards of care

Child

See: Definition of the child

Child abduction

See: Abduction / Illicit transfer and non-return

Child abuse

See: Abuse and neglect

Childcare

CRC: Art. 18(3)

Note: The right of children of working parents to benefit from childcare services and facilities for which they are eligible is set forth in Article 18(3) of the CRC.

See also: Care of children / Standards of care

Child custody

See: Contact with both parents / Parental responsibilities / Separation from parent(s)

Child health and nutrition

CRC: Art. 24(2)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of child health and nutrition.

See also: Adequate nutrition / Breast-feeding / Health and health services / Health education / Malnutrition

Child labour

CRC: Art. 32

Note: There is no precise definition of child labour, as it is a term covering many diverse situations. Child labour can be divided into six categories: domestic, non-domestic, non-monetary, bonded labour, wage labour and marginal economic activity. According to the ILO, in developing countries the most important method for ensuring that children under the age of 12 years are not working is the accessibility of primary education. Article 32 of the CRC deals with the right of the child to protection against economic exploitation. In addition, it deals with the right to be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. The term "work" is broader than employment, the latter implying some form of contractual or formal status. States Parties are required to take appropriate measures for the implementation of the rights set forth in Article 32. In particular, they are required to provide for: a minimum age or minimum age(s) for admission to employment; appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment; and appropriate sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of the provisions of Article 32. There are 27 ILO Conventions and 14 ILO Recommendations relevant to the employment of children. Of particular relevance to the implementation of Article 32 are ILO Convention No. 138 Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973) and ILO Recommendation No. 146 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973).

See also: Bonded labour / Conditions of employment / Economic exploitation / Enforcement of child labour standards / Exploitation / Forced labour / Harmful work / Hazardous work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment / Slavery / Trade unions

Child marriage

Note: Child marriage and the betrothal of boys and girls are not explicitly dealt with in the CRC. However, Article 24(3) of the CRC obligates States Parties to take all effective and appropriate measures to abolish traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children, and Article 36 deals with the right of the child to protection against all forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child's welfare. Noteworthy is that Article 21(2) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990) obligates States Parties to prohibit child marriage and the betrothal of boys and girls and to take effective action, including legislation, to specify the minimum age of marriage to be 18 years and to make registration of all marriages in an official registry compulsory. The Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (1962), Articles 1(c)(d) and 2 of the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956) and Article 23(3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) obligate States Parties to specify a minimum age for marriage and/or prohibit marriages which are entered into without the free and full consent of both parties. Consider also the Recommendation on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1965.

See also: Traditional practices

Child mortality

CRC: Art. 24(2)(a)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to diminish child mortality.

See also: Health and health services / Infant mortality

Child neglect

See: Abuse and neglect

Child nutrition

See: Adequate nutrition / Child health and nutrition / Malnutrition / Material assistance

Child pornography

CRC: Art. 34(c)

Note: The right of the child to protection against all forms of sexual exploitation, including child pornography, is set forth in Article 34(c) of the CRC. States Parties are required to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

See also: Child prostitution / Exploitation / Recovery and reintegration / Sexual exploitation

Child prisoners of war

Note: Article 38(1) of the CRC obligates States Parties "to respect and to ensure respect for rules of international humanitarian law applicable to them in armed conflicts which are relevant to the child." The principal rules of international humanitarian law which regulate the treatment by States of child prisoners of war are set forth in the Geneva Convention Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (1949), otherwise known as Geneva Convention No. 3. Article 37(c) of the CRC, which deals with the right of every child deprived of his or her liberty to appropriate treatment, can also be invoked.

See also: Children in armed conflicts / Children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

Child prostitution

CRC: Art. 34(b)

Note: The right of the child to protection against all forms of sexual exploitation, including child prostitution, is set forth in Article 34(b) of the CRC. States Parties are required to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the exploitative use of children in prostitution.

See also: Child pornography / Exploitation / Recovery and reintegration / Sexual exploitation

Child protection

See: Protection of children

Child safety

See: Accident prevention

Child soldiers

See: Children in armed conflicts / Participation in hostilities / Recruitment

Child support

See: Maintenance obligations / Recovery of maintenance

Child well-being

See: Care of children / Protection of children

Children

See: Definition of the child

Children alleged as or accused of having infringed the penal law

See: Accused children

Children belonging to a minority

See: Ethnic minority children / Indigenous children / Minority children / Linguistic minority children / Religious minority children

Children belonging to an indigenous group

See: Indigenous children

Children born out of wedlock

Note: Children born outside of marriage. Article 25(2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) provides that all children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection. See also the European Convention on the Legal Status of Children Born Out of Wedlock (1975). Article 2(1) of the CRC obligates States Parties to respect and to ensure the rights set forth in the CRC to each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's birth or other status.

See also: Discrimination / Identity / Name

Children deprived of their family environment

CRC: Art. 20

Note: Article 20 of the CRC accords to children permanently or temporarily deprived of their family environment, or who in their own best interests cannot be allowed to remain in that environment, the right to special State protection and assistance and the right to alternative care in accordance with national laws.

See also: Adoption / Alternative care / Foster placement / Judicial review / Kafala / Placement in institutions / Procedures / Unaccompanied refugee children

Children deprived of their liberty

CRC: Art. 37(b)(c)(d)

Note: Article 37(b)(c)(d) accords special rights to children deprived of their liberty. Children deprived of their liberty include arrested, detained or imprisoned children and child prisoners of war.

See also: Arrest / Child prisoners of war / Deprivation of liberty / Detention / Determination of lawfulness of detention / Imprisonment / Independent and impartial authority / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Judicial body / Life imprisonment / Prompt legal assistance / Separation from adult prisoners / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

Children in armed conflicts

CRC: Art. 38

Note: Article 38 of the CRC accords special rights to children in armed conflicts. Children become caught up in armed conflicts either as civilians or as participants. International humanitarian law divides armed conflicts into international armed conflicts and non-international armed conflicts. International armed conflicts include "armed conflicts in which peoples are fighting against colonial domination and alien occupation and against racist regimes in the exercise of their right of self-determination" (Geneva Protocol No. 1 Additional to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (1977)). Non-international armed conflicts are those "which take place in the territory of a [State] between its armed forces and dissident armed forces or other organized armed groups which, under responsible command, exercise such control over a part of its territory as to enable them to carry out sustained and concerted military operations" (Geneva Protocol No. 2 Additional to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (1977)). They do not include "situations of internal disturbances and tensions, such as riots, isolated and sporadic acts of violence and other acts of a similar nature" (Geneva Protocol No. 2 Additional to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (1977)).

See also: Child prisoners of war / Humanitarian assistance / International humanitarian law / Participation in hostilities / Recovery and reintegration / Recruitment

Children in conflict with the law

See: Accused children / Convicted children

Children in situations of emergency

See: Children in armed conflicts / Refugee children

Children in prisons

See: Children deprived of their liberty / Imprisonment

Children of working parents

See: Child-care

Children recognized as having infringed the penal law

See: Convicted children

Children's books

CRC: Art. 17(c)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to have access to appropriate information, States Parties are required to encourage the production and dissemination of children's books.

See also: Appropriate information / Freedom of information / Mass media

Citizenship

See: Nationality

Civil and political rights

Note: Children are usually not considered to have political rights due to their status. Regarding those rights in the CRC that can be considered civil rights, see the thematic listing

particularly under "Civil rights and freedoms". Consider also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966).

See also: Domestic implementation / Economic, social and cultural rights

Colour

See: Discrimination

Committee on the Rights of the Child

CRC: Art.43; Art.44; Art.45

Note: The Committee on the Rights of the Child is one of the treaty-monitoring bodies of the United Nations and is composed of ten independent experts. These experts are elected periodically by States Parties to the CRC. Its function is to promote and monitor the implementation by States Parties of the rights set forth in the CRC.

See also: Competent bodies / Economic and Social Council / General Assembly / Indicators / Inter-governmental organizations / Non-governmental organizations / Reporting obligations / Technical advice and assistance / United Nations Children's Fund / United Nations organs / United Nations specialized agencies / United Nations studies

Community

CRC: Art. 5

Note: States Parties are required to respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided for by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child, to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise by the child of the rights recognized in the CRC.

See also: Extended family / Parental guidance

Competent bodies

CRC: Art. 45(a)(b)

Note: The Committee on the Rights of the Child may invite the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund and other competent bodies as it considers appropriate, including inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, to provide expert advice on the implementation of the CRC in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. The Committee may also transmit to such bodies any State reports that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Inter-governmental organizations / Non-governmental organizations / United Nations Children's Fund / United Nations organs / United Nations specialized agencies / Technical advice and assistance

Compulsory education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(a)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to make primary education compulsory and available free to all.

See also: Education / Free education / Primary education

Conditions of employment

CRC: Art. 32(2)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to protection against economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or harmful to the child's development, States Parties are required to provide for appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment.

See also: Child labour / Economic exploitation / Enforcement of child labour standards / Harmful work / Hazardous work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Conscience

See: Freedom of conscience

Conscription

See: Recruitment

Contact with both parents

CRC: Art. 9(3); Art. 10(2)

Note: Article 9(3) of the CRC accords to the child who is separated from one or both parents the right to maintain personal relations and direct contact with both parents on a regular basis, except if it is contrary to the child's best interests. Article 10(2) accords to the child whose parents reside in different States the right to maintain on a regular basis, save in exceptional circumstances, personal relations and direct contacts with both parents. For the implementation of this right, States Parties are required to respect the right of the child and the parents to leave any country, including their own, and to enter their own country.

See also: Enter a country / Family reunification / Illicit transfer and non-return / Leave a country / Separation from parents

Convicted children

CRC: Art. 40

Note: Article 40 accords special rights to children recognized as having infringed the penal law.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Appeal / Capital punishment / Life imprisonment / Non-custodial measures / Nullum crimen sine lege / Offence / Treatment of convicted children

Corporal punishment

See: Abuse and neglect / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / School discipline / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Correspondence

CRC: Art. 16

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference are set forth in Article 16 of the CRC.

See also: Privacy / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

Criminal justice

See: Administration of juvenile justice

Criminal offenders

See: Accused children / Convicted children / Juvenile offenders

Criminal responsibility

See: Minimum age for criminal responsibility

Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

CRC: Art. 37(a)

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is set forth in Article 37(a) of the CRC. The aim of this provision is to protect both the dignity and the physical and mental integrity of the child.

See also: Discrimination and punishment / Recovery and reintegration / School discipline / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Cultural life

CRC: Art. 31

Note: The right of the child to participate freely in cultural life and the arts is recognized in Article 31 of the CRC. States Parties are required to respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and to encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural and artistic activity.

See also: Equal opportunities

Culture

See: Cultural life / Ethnic minority children / Indigenous children / Minority children

Cultural rights

See: Economic, social and cultural rights

Death in custody

See: Information on absent parent(s) or child

Death penalty

See: Capital punishment

Debt bondage

See: Bonded labour

Defence

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(ii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have legal or other appropriate assistance in the preparation and presentation of his or her defence is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(ii) of the CRC.

See also: Access to court / Accusations / Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Assistance of an interpreter / Determination of criminal charges / Due process / Fair trial / Examination of witnesses / Legal assistance / Trial in the presence of legal assistance

Definition of the child

CRC: Art. 1

Note: Article 1 of the CRC defines who is to be considered a "child" for the purposes of the CRC, and states that: "For the purposes of the present Convention, a child means every human being below the age of eighteen years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier."

See also: Majority / Minimum age(s) / Obligation of States / Unborn child

Degrading treatment or punishment

See: Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Democratic society

See: Restrictions of rights

Denunciation

CRC: Art. 52

Note: The denunciation of a treaty is an act whereby a State Party gives notice that it no longer wishes to be bound by that treaty. Denunciation of the CRC may only take place in conformity with Article 52, which provides that States Parties may denounce the CRC by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation becomes effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General. The rules of international treaty law concerning the denunciation of treaties are set forth in Articles 54 and 56 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969).

See also: Accession / Amendments / Depositary / Ratification / Reservations

Deportation of parent(s) or child

See: Information on absent parent(s) or child

Depositary

CRC: Art. 53

Note: Article 53 of the CRC designates the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the depositary of the CRC. The rules of international treaty law concerning depositaries and their functions are set forth in Articles 76 to 80 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969). Particular functions of the depositary of the CRC are mentioned in Articles 47 to 52 and Article 54 of the CRC, such as the function of receiving and circulating to all States Parties the texts of reservations made by States at the time of ratification or accession.

See also: Accession / Amendments / Authentic texts / Denunciation / Entry into force / Ratification / Reservations / Signature

Deprivation of liberty

CRC: Art. 37(b)

Note: The right of every child not to be subjected to unlawful or arbitrary deprivation of his or her liberty is recognized in Article 37(b) of the CRC.

See also: Arrest / Children deprived of their liberty / Detention / Disappearances / Imprisonment / Life imprisonment / Non-custodial measures

Deprived of their family environment

See: Children deprived of their family environment

Deprived of liberty

See: Children deprived of their liberty

Detained children

See: Children deprived of their liberty / Detention

Detention

CRC: Art. 37(b)

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful detention, and the legal guarantee of the use of detention only as measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time are recognized in Article 37(b) of the CRC.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Deprivation of liberty / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Non-custodial measures

Detention of parent(s)

See: Information on absent parent(s) or child

Determination of criminal charges

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have the matter determined without delay by a competent, independent and impartial authority or judicial body is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iii) of the CRC.

See also: Access to court / Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Defence

Determination of lawfulness of detention

CRC: Art. 37(d)

Note: Article 37(d) of the CRC accords to every child deprived of his or her liberty the right to challenge the legality of the deprivation of his or her liberty before a court or other competent, independent and impartial authority, and to a prompt decision on any such action.

See also: Access to court / Children deprived of their liberty / Independent and impartial authority / Judicial body / Prompt legal assistance / Prompt trial

Developing countries

CRC: Preamble para. 13; Art. 23(4); Art. 24(4); Art. 28(3)

Note: The CRC recognizes the importance of international co-operation for improving the living conditions of children in every country, in particular the developing countries.

See also: Disabled children and international co-operation / Domestic implementation / Education and international co-operation /

Health and international co-operation / Ignorance / Illiteracy / International co-operation / Modern teaching methods / Science and technology / Technical advice and assistance

Development

See: Survival and development

Dignity

See: Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Disabled children / Honour and reputation / School discipline / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Disability

See: Disabled children / Discrimination

Disabled assistance

CRC: Art. 23(2)(3)

Note: The right of the mentally or physically disabled child to special care and assistance is set forth in Article 23(2)(3) of the CRC. These provisions obligate States Parties to ensure the extension to the eligible disabled child, and to those responsible for his or her care, of assistance for which application is made and which is appropriate to the child's condition and to the circumstances of the parents or others caring for the child. States Parties are required to ensure that such assistance is extended free of charge, whenever possible, taking into account the financial resources of the parents or others caring for the child, and that it is designed to ensure that disabled children have effective access to and receive education, training, health care services, rehabilitation services, preparation for employment and recreation opportunities.

See also: Disabled children

Disabled children

CRC: Art. 23

Note: The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons (1975) defines an individual with disabilities as anyone "unable to ensure by himself or herself, wholly or partly, the necessities of a normal individual and/or social life as a result of a deficiency either congenital or not in his or her physical or mental capabilities." Under Article 2(1) of the CRC, States Parties are required to ensure to each child within their jurisdiction all of the CRC's rights without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's disability. In addition, Article 23 accords to the mentally or physically disabled child the right to special care and assistance. The purpose of this provision is to ensure that disabled children enjoy a full and decent life, in conditions which ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the child's active participation in the community.

See also: Disabled assistance / Disabled children and international co-operation

Disabled children and international co-operation

CRC: Art. 23(4)

Note: States Parties are required to promote the exchange of information in the field of preventive health care and of medical, psychological and functional treatment of disabled children, including dissemination of and access to information concerning methods of rehabilitation, education and vocational services. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Disabled children / International co-operation

Disappearances

Note: Enforced or involuntary disappearances of persons as a result of excesses on the part of law enforcement or security authorities or similar organizations, often while such persons are subject to detention or imprisonment. A grave example is the disappearance of children in Argentina under the military junta during the 1970's. Some were abducted with their parents, whilst others were killed by security forces and remain in unmarked graves. Some 131 children were born in secret detention centres or military hospitals, and taken from their mothers at birth. Evidence emerged that many of the babies were illegally given to childless military or police couples who raised them as their own. These atrocities inspired Argentina to propose the inclusion of Article 8 to the CRC, which deals with the right of the child to preserve his or her identity without unlawful interference.

See also: Abduction / Deprivation of liberty / Preservation of identity

Discrimination

CRC: Art. 2(1)

Note: States Parties are required to respect and to ensure the rights set forth in the CRC to each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status. Discrimination can be defined as any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference, based on any grounds, which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by all children, on an equal footing, of the rights and freedoms recognized in the CRC.

See also: Best interests of the child / Children born out of wedlock / Discrimination and punishment / Equal opportunities / Ethnic minority children / Evolving capacities of the child / Indigenous children / Linguistic minority children / Minority children / Obligation of States / Religious minority children / Respect for the views of the child

Discrimination and punishment

CRC: Art. 2(2)

Note: Article 2(2) of the CRC accords to the child the right to be protected from all forms of discrimination or punishment on the basis of the status, activities, expressed opinions, or beliefs of the child's parents, legal guardians, or other family members.

See also: Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Disease

CRC: Art. 24(2)(c)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures, including within the framework of primary health care, to combat disease through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking-water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution.

See also: Health and health services / Malnutrition / Preventive health care / Primary health care

Displaced children

See: Internally displaced children / Refugee children

Dissemination of CRC

CRC: Art. 42

Note: States Parties are required to make the provisions and principles of the CRC widely known to adults and children. In order to fos-

ter, monitor and enforce the effective implementation by States of the CRC, it is important that adults and children be aware of the rights accorded to the child. The content of human rights treaties is usually not widely known. Human rights bodies have therefore continually stressed the need for States to publicize such treaties and to translate them into the various national languages.

See also: Dissemination of reports

Dissemination of reports

CRC: Art. 44(6)

Note: States Parties are required to make their reports for the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights set forth in the CRC and on the progress made on the enjoyment of those rights widely available to the public in their own countries. In order to foster, monitor and enforce the effective implementation by States of the CRC, it is important that adults and children are aware of how States report to the Committee on the situation in their respective countries.

See also: Dissemination of CRC / Reporting obligations

Dissolution of marriage

See: Contact with both parents / Separation from parent(s)

Diversions

CRC: Art. 40(3)(b)

Note: States Parties are required to promote the establishment of a juvenile justice system, including measures for dealing with accused or convicted children without resorting to judicial proceedings, providing that human rights and legal safeguards are fully respected.

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Juvenile justice / Minimum age for criminal responsibility

Divorce

See: Contact with both parents / Separation from parent(s)

Domestic implementation

CRC: Art. 4

Note: States Parties are required to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, and other measures for the implementation of the rights set forth in the CRC. With regard to the economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the CRC, States Parties are required to take such measures to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international co-operation.

See also: Applicability / Civil and political rights / Developing countries / Economic, social and cultural rights / Indicators / International co-operation / Obligation of States / Reporting obligations / Saving clause

Domestic jurisdiction

See: Jurisdiction

Drittwirkung

Note: The possibility that the rights guaranteed under the CRC are enforceable in relations between individuals as well as between individuals and State authorities, otherwise known as horizontal or inter-individual application.

See also: Applicability

Drop-out rates

CRC: Art. 28(1)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to take measures to encourage the reduction of drop-out rates.

See also: Education / School attendance

Drug abuse

CRC: Art. 33

Note: The right of the child to protection against drug abuse is dealt with in Article 33 of the CRC. States Parties are required to take all appropriate measures to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties. These treaties include the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971).

See also: Drug production / Drug trafficking

Drug production

CRC: Art. 33

Note: Article 33 of the CRC deals with the right of the child to protection against the use of children in the illicit production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties. These treaties include the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971).

See also: Drug abuse / Drug trafficking / Exploitation / Recovery and reintegration

Drug trafficking

CRC: Art. 33

Note: Article 33 of the CRC deals with the right of the child to protection against the use of children in the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties. These treaties include the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971).

See also: Drug abuse / Drug production / Exploitation / Recovery and reintegration

Due process

CRC: Art. 40

Note: The adoption of an individual right to trial in court and detailed minimum guarantees of the accused in criminal proceedings is based on the Anglo-Saxon common-law tradition of "due process of law". Article 40 of the CRC accords to a child alleged as or accused of having infringed the penal law the right to a fair trial, and contains basic safeguards such as the presumption of innocence, the right to be informed of the charge, and the right to have the matter determined without delay.

See also: Accusations / Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Assistance of an interpreter / Defence / Examination of witnesses / Independent and impartial authority / Judicial body / Legal assistance / Presumption of innocence / Trial in the presence of legal assistance

Economic and Social Council

CRC: Art. 44(5)

Note: Every two years, the Committee on the Rights of the Child is required to submit to the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), reports on its activities. The ECOSOC is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations and operates under the authority of the General Assembly. The principal human rights functions of the ECOSOC, as stated in Chapter X of the United Nations Charter, are (a) to "make or initiate studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters" and to "make recommendations with respect to any such matters to the General Assembly, to the Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies concerned"; (b) to "make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all"; (c) to "prepare draft conventions for submission to the General Assembly, with respect to matters falling within its competence"; and (d) to "call, in accordance with the rules prescribed by the

United Nations, international conferences on matters falling within its competence". In addition, the ECOSOC is responsible for coordinating the activities of the specialized agencies.

See also: Committee of the Rights of the Child / General Assembly / United Nations organs

Economic exploitation

CRC: Art. 32

Note: The right of the child to protection against economic exploitation is set forth in Article 32 of the CRC. States Parties are required to take appropriate measures for the implementation of this right. In particular they are required to provide for: a minimum age or minimum age(s) for admission to employment; appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment; and appropriate sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of the provisions of Article 32.

See also: Bonded labour / Child labour / Conditions of employment / Enforcement of child labour standards / Exploitation / Forced labour / Harmful work / Hazardous work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment / Recovery and reintegration / Slavery

Economic, social and cultural rights

CRC: Art. 4

Note: States Parties are required to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, and other measures for the implementation of the economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the CRC to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international co-operation. Regarding those rights in the CRC that can be considered as economic, social or cultural rights, see the thematic listing particularly under "Basic health and welfare" and "Education, leisure and cultural activities". Consider also the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966).

See also: Civil and political rights / Domestic implementation / International co-operation

Education

CRC: Art. 28

Note: Article 28 of the CRC obligates States Parties to recognize the right of the child to education, and emphasizes the obligation to realize this right on the basis of equal opportunity.

See also: Aims of education / Compulsory education / Drop-out rates / Education and international co-operation / Education assistance / Educational guidance / Educational institutions / Equal opportunities / Free education / General education / Higher education / Ignorance / Illiteracy / Modern teaching methods / Primary education / Science and technology / School attendance / School discipline / Secondary education / Vocational education / Vocational guidance

Education and international co-operation

CRC: Art. 28(3)

Note: Article 28(3) obligates States Parties to promote international co-operation in matters relating to education, in particular with a view to contributing to the elimination of ignorance and illiteracy and facilitating access to scientific and technical knowledge and modern teaching methods. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Education / Ignorance / Illiteracy / International co-operation / Modern teaching methods / Science and technology

Education assistance

CRC: Art. 28(1)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to make secondary education available and accessible to every child, such as offering financial assistance in case of need.

See also: Education / Free education / Secondary education

Educational guidance

CRC: Art. 28(1)(d)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to make educational information and guidance available and accessible to all children.

See also: Education / Vocational guidance

Educational institutions

CRC: Art. 29(2)

Note: States Parties are required to respect the liberty of individuals and bodies to establish and direct educational institutions. This liberty is subject to the observance of the aims of education set forth in Article 29(1) of the CRC and to the requirement that the education given in such institutions shall conform to such minimum standards as may be laid down by the State.

See also: Aims of education / Education

Emergencies

See: Children in armed conflicts / Internally displaced children / Refugee children

Employment

See: Child labour / Conditions of employment / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Enforcement of child labour standards

CRC: Art. 32(2)(c)

Note: States Parties are required to take measures for the implementation of the right of the child to protection against economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or development. States Parties are required, having regard to the relevant provisions of other international instruments, inter alia, to provide for appropriate penalties or other sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of the provisions of Article 32. Relevant provisions of other international instruments include: Article 9 of ILO Convention No. 138 Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973); Article 3(1)(a) of ILO Labour Inspection Convention No. 81 (1947); Article 6(1)(a) of ILO Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention No. 129 (1969); and Paragraph 14 of ILO Recommendation No. 146 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973).

See also: Child labour / Conditions of employment / Economic exploitation / Harmful work / Hazardous work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment / Trade unions

Enter a country

Note: The right to enter one's own country, which is recognized in Article 12(4) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966), is not included in the CRC. The CRC does include the right of the child and parents to enter a State Party for the purposes of family reunification, and the right of the child or parents to enter one's own country for the purposes of contact with a parent or child residing in a different country.

See also: Contact with both parents / Family reunification / Leave a country

Entry into force

CRC: Art. 49

Note: When a treaty enters into force its provisions become binding for those States that have expressed their consent to be bound by

the treaty. The rules of international treaty law concerning the entry into force of treaties are set forth in Article 24 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969). A treaty normally enters into force in such a manner and upon such date as it may provide or as the negotiating States may agree. Article 49 of the CRC provides that the CRC shall enter into force on the 30th day following the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the 20th instrument of ratification or accession. The CRC entered into force on 2 September 1990. For those States that expressed their consent to be bound by the CRC by means of ratification or accession after this date, the CRC entered into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession.

See also: Accession / Depositary / Ratification

Environmental sanitation

CRC: Art. 24(2)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of hygiene and environmental sanitation.

See also: Health and health services / Health education / Hygiene

Equal opportunities

CRC: Art. 28(1); Art. 31(2)

Note: Article 28 of the CRC obligates States Parties to recognize the right of the child to education, and emphasizes the obligation to realize this right on the basis of equal opportunity. In addition, Article 31(2) obligates States Parties to encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural and artistic activity.

See also: Cultural life / Discrimination / Education / Leisure / Recreation

Equality of parents

CRC: Art. 18(1)

Note: States Parties are required to ensure recognition of the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child.

See also: Parental guidance / Parental responsibilities

Ethnic minority children

CRC: Art. 30

Note: An ethnic minority is a group of people of common ethnic or national origin in minority within the territory of a State. Under Article 30 of the CRC, those States Parties in which ethnic minorities exist shall not deny a child belonging to such a minority the right, in community with other members of his or her group, to enjoy his or her own culture. This right is also recognized in Article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). Noteworthy is the standard-setting work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, including the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1992.

See also: Discrimination / Minority children

Ethnic origin

See: Discrimination / Ethnic minority children

Evolving capacities of the child

CRC: Art. 5; Art. 12(1); Art. 14(2)

Note: One of the general principles of interpretation underlying the implementation of the CRC is that States Parties are required to respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided for by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child, to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise by the child of the rights set forth in the CRC.

See also: Best interests of the child / Discrimination / Freedom of religion / Parental guidance / Respect for the views of the child

Examination of witnesses

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iv)

Note: The right of the accused child to examine or have examined adverse witnesses and to obtain the participation and examination of witnesses on his or her behalf under conditions of equality is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iv) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Defence / Due process / Fair trial

Executions

See: Capital punishment / Right to life

Exile

See: Information on absent parent(s) or child

Exploitation

CRC: Art. 36

Note: Article 36 of the CRC deals with the right of the child to protection against all forms of exploitation, over and above those forms of exploitation explicitly dealt with in Articles 32, 33, 34 and 35 of the CRC. Consider also Article 10(3) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966).

See also: Abduction / Bonded labour / Child labour / Child pornography / Child prostitution / Drug production / Drug trafficking / Economic exploitation / Forced labour / Organ trafficking / Recovery and reintegration / Sale and trafficking / Sexual exploitation / Slavery

Expression

See: Freedom of expression

Extended family

CRC: Art. 5

Note: States Parties are required to respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided for by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child, to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise by the child of the rights recognized in the CRC.

See also: Community / Parental guidance

Extrajudicial executions

See: Right to life

Fair hearing

See: Fair trial

Fair trial

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)

Note: The right of the accused child to a fair trial according to law is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iii) of the CRC.

See also: Accusations / Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Assistance of an interpreter / Defence / Examination of witnesses / Independent and impartial author-

ity / Judicial body / Legal assistance / Presumption of innocence / Trial in the presence of legal assistance

Family

See: Children deprived of their family environment / Family assistance / Family planning / Family relations / Family reunification / Family tracing / Parental care / Parental guidance / Parental responsibilities / Respect for family / Separation from parent(s)

Family assistance

CRC: Art. 18(2); Art. 27(3)

Note: Under Article 18(2) of the CRC, States Parties are required to render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities. In addition, under Article 27(3), States Parties are required to assist parents and others responsible for the child to implement the child's right to an adequate standard of living, and to provide material assistance and support programmes in case of need, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

See also: Adequate standard of living / Maintenance obligations / Material assistance / Parental responsibilities / Social insurance / Social security

Family planning

CRC: Art. 24(2)(f)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to develop family planning education and services.

See also: Health and health services / Guidance for parents

Family relations

CRC: Art. 8(1)

Note: According to Article 8(1) of the CRC, the identity of the child includes his or her nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law.

See also: Identity / Name / Nationality / Preservation of identity / Respect for family

Family reunification

CRC: Art. 10(1)

Note: States Parties are required to deal with applications by a child or his or her parents to enter or leave a State Party for the purpose of family reunification in a positive, humane and expeditious manner.

See also: Enter a country / Family tracing / Leave a country / Separation from parent(s) / Refugee children / Respect for family / Unaccompanied refugee children

Family tracing

CRC: Art. 22(2)

Note: Article 22(2) of the CRC obligates States Parties to provide, as they consider appropriate, co-operation in any efforts by the United Nations and other competent intergovernmental organizations or non-governmental organizations co-operating with the United Nations to protect and assist refugee children and to trace the parents or other family members of any refugee child in order to obtain information necessary for family reunification. Family tracing is of particular relevance to refugee children unaccompanied by their parents or by any other adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for the care of the child.

See also: Family reunification / Refugee-assisting organizations / Refugee children / Unaccompanied refugee children / United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Family unity

See: Family reunification / Respect for family / Separation from parent(s)

Female circumcision

See: Traditional practices

Financial responsibility for the child

See: Maintenance obligations

Food

See: Adequate nutrition / Malnutrition

Forced labour

Note: Forced or compulsory labour is work or service involuntarily exacted from adults or children under the menace of any penalty. Article 32 of the CRC dealing with protection against economic exploitation and Article 36 dealing with protection against all forms of exploitation can be invoked. Military service is generally excluded under international law from constituting forced labour. Relevant provisions of international instruments include: Article 8(3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966); Article 6(2) of the American Convention on Human Rights (1969); Article 4(2) of the European Convention on Human Rights (1950); Article 5 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981); and Article 2(a) of the ILO Convention No. 105 Concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour (1957). Consider also the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956).

See also: Bonded labour / Child labour / Economic exploitation / Exploitation / Slavery

Foster placement

CRC: Art. 20(3)

Note: Article 20(3) of the CRC provides that alternative care for children deprived of their family environment could include, inter alia, foster placement, kafala of Islamic law, adoption or if necessary placement in institutions for the care of children. Noteworthy is the Declaration on Social and Legal Principles Relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children With Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1986.

See also: Adoption / Alternative care / Children deprived of their family environment / Kafala / Periodic review of placement / Placement in institutions

Free education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(a)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to make primary education compulsory and available free to all. In addition, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures, including the introduction of free education, to make secondary education available and accessible to every child.

See also: Compulsory education / Education / Education assistance / Primary education / Secondary education

Freedom of assembly

CRC: Art. 15

Note: The right of the child to peaceful assembly is recognized in Article 15 of the CRC.

See also: Freedom of association / Restrictions of rights

Freedom of association

CRC: Art. 15

Note: The right of the child to freedom of association is recognized in Article 15 the CRC. The right to freedom of association embraces the notion of coming together for the purposes of a common goal, for example, the freedom to associate in a wide variety of

voluntary organizations from scouting and guiding to campaigning for peace and to establish a school union.

See also: Freedom of assembly / Restrictions of rights / Trade unions

Freedom of conscience

CRC: Art. 14(1)

Note: States Parties are required to respect the right of the child to freedom of thought and conscience.

See also: Freedom of religion

Freedom of expression

CRC: Art. 13

Note: The right of the child to freedom of expression includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any media of the child's choice.

See also: Appropriate information / Freedom of information / Respect for the views of the child / Restrictions of rights

Freedom of information

CRC: Art. 13

Note: The right of the child to freedom of expression includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any media of the child's choice.

See also: Appropriate information / Children's books / Freedom of expression / Information and international co-operation / Information and linguistic minority children / Injurious information / Mass media

Freedom of opinion

See: Freedom of expression / Respect for the views of the child / Right to be heard

Freedom of religion

CRC: Art. 14

Note: States Parties are required to respect the right of the child to freedom of religion, including the freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs. The latter may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others. States Parties are required to respect the rights and duties of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians, to provide direction to the child in the exercise of his or her right to freedom of religion in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child.

See also: Discrimination / Evolving capacities of the child / Freedom of conscience / Parental guidance / Religious minorities / Restrictions of rights

General Assembly

CRC: Art. 44(5); Art. 45(c)(d); Art. 50(1)(2)

Note: Every two years, the Committee on the Rights of the Child is required to submit to the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN), through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), reports on its activities. The General Assembly is one of the six principal organs of the UN. It is essentially a deliberative, supervisory and reviewing organ of the UN. Article 10 of the Charter of the UN provides that the General Assembly may discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of the Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any of the organs provided for in the Charter and may make recommendations to the Members of the UN or to the Security Council or to both on any such questions or matters. The General Assembly consists of all the States Members of the UN and meets in regular annual sessions.

See also: Committee of the Rights of the Child / Economic and Social Council / United Nations organs / United Nations studies

General education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to encourage the development of different forms of secondary education, including general education, and to make them available and accessible to every child through, for example, the introduction of free education and offering financial assistance in case of need.

See also: Education / Education assistance / Free education / Secondary education / Vocational education

Genital mutilation

See: Traditional practices

Girl child

See: Discrimination

Guidance for parents

CRC: Art. 24(2)(f)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to develop guidance for parents.

See also: Health and health services / Family planning

Habeas corpus

See: Determination of lawfulness of detention

Handicapped children

See: Disabled children

Harmful work

CRC: Art. 32

Note: Article 32 of the CRC accords to the child the right to be protected from any work that is likely to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. The term "work" is broader than employment, the latter implying some form of contractual or formal status.

See also: Child labour / Conditions of employment / Economic exploitation / Enforcement of child labour standards / Hazardous work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Hazardous work

CRC: Art. 32

Note: Article 32 of the CRC accords to the child the right to be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous. Article 3 of ILO Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973) defines "hazardous employment or work" as work which is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of a child, and sets the minimum age for such employment at the age of 18 years. The duty is placed on States Parties to determine, after consultation with organizations of employers and workers and taking into account any relevant treaties to which they are Parties, which types of work fall within this definition. Relevant international instruments in this regard include: White Lead (Painting Convention) (1921); Benzene Convention (1971); and Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention (1979). Consider also paragraph 10 of ILO Recommendation No. 146 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973).

See also: Child labour / Conditions of employment / Economic exploitation / Enforcement of child labour standards / Harmful work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Health

See: Health and health services

Health and health services

CRC: Art. 24

Note: Article 24 of the CRC accords to the child the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health care services for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health, and emphasizes the right of the child to have access to such health care services. The Constitution of the World Health Organisation (WHO) defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being. Health is therefore not regarded as merely the absence of disease or infirmity. This definition was reaffirmed and expanded in the Declaration of Alma-Ata, which was adopted in 1978 at the International Conference on Primary Health Care by UNICEF and the WHO. According to this Declaration, good health should enable individuals to develop to the maximum of their physical and mental potential, and to live economically and socially productive lives in harmony with the environment, and therefore requires the action of many other social and economic sectors in addition to the health sector.

See also: Accident prevention / Breast-feeding / Child health and nutrition / Child mortality / Disease / Environmental sanitation / Family planning / Guidance for parents / Health and international co-operation / Health care / Health education / Hygiene / Infant mortality / Malnutrition / Medical assistance / Periodic review of placement / Post-natal health care / Pre-natal health care / Preventive health care / Primary health care / Survival and development / Traditional practices

Health and international co-operation

CRC: Art. 24(4)

Note: Article 24(4) of the CRC obligates States Parties to promote international co-operation with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Health and health services / International co-operation

Health care

CRC: Art. 24(2)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure the provision of necessary medical assistance and health care to all children with emphasis on the development of primary health care.

See also: Health and health services / Preventive health care / Primary health care

Health education

CRC: Art. 24(2)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of child health and nutrition, the advantages of breast-feeding, hygiene and environmental sanitation and the prevention of accidents.

See also: Accident prevention / Breast-feeding / Child health and nutrition / Environmental sanitation / Health and health services / Hygiene

Health services

See: Health and health services

Higher education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(c)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to make higher education accessible to all on the basis of capacity by every appropriate means.

See also: Education

Home

See: Respect for home

Honour and reputation

CRC: Art. 16

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to unlawful attacks on his or her honour and reputation and the right to the protection of the law against such attacks are set forth in Article 16 of the CRC.

See also: Freedom of expression / Privacy

Hours of employment

CRC: Art. 32(2)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to protection against economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or harmful to the child's development, States Parties are required to provide for appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment.

See also: Child labour / Conditions of employment / Economic exploitation / Enforcement of child labour standards / Harmful work / Hazardous work / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Humanitarian assistance

CRC: Art. 22; Art. 38

Note: In general terms, humanitarian assistance refers to any aid in the form of food, clothing or medicines and medical treatment. States Parties are required to ensure that a refugee child receives appropriate protection and humanitarian assistance in the enjoyment of the rights set forth in the CRC and in other international human rights or humanitarian treaties to which States Parties are also Parties.

See also: Children in armed conflicts / International humanitarian law / Refugee children / Refugee protection

Hygiene

CRC: Art. 24(2)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of hygiene and environmental sanitation.

See also: Environmental sanitation / Health and health services / Health education

Identity

CRC: Art. 8(1)

Note: According to Article 8(1) of the CRC, the identity of the child includes his or her nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law.

See also: Children born out of wedlock / Family relations / Know one's parents / Name / Nationality / Preservation of identity

Ignorance

CRC: Art. 28(3)

Note: States Parties are required to promote international co-operation in matters relating to education, in particular with a view to contributing to the elimination of ignorance throughout the world. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Education / Education and international co-operation / Illiteracy / International co-operation

Illicit transfer and non-return

CRC: Art. 11

Note: The illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad refers to the problem of the abduction of children across frontiers by one of their parents. States Parties are required to take measures to combat the illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad, including the conclusion of bilateral or multilateral treaties or accession to existing treaties. Existing treaties include: the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (1980); the European Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions Concerning Custody of Children and on Restoration of Custody of Children (1980); and the Inter-American Convention on the Return of Children (1989).

See also: Abduction / Contact with both parents / Recovery of maintenance / Separation from parent(s)

Illiteracy

CRC: Art. 28(3)

Note: States Parties are required to promote international co-operation in matters relating to education, in particular with a view to contributing to the elimination of illiteracy throughout the world. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Education / Education and international co-operation / Ignorance / International co-operation

Impartial authority

See: Independent and impartial authority

Imprisoned children

See: Children deprived of their liberty / Imprisonment

Imprisonment

CRC: Art. 37(b)

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to unlawful or arbitrary imprisonment and the right to the use of imprisonment only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time are set forth in Article 37(b) of the CRC.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Deprivation of liberty / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Life imprisonment / Non-custodial measures

Imprisonment of parent(s)

See: Information on absent parent(s) or child

Incorporation

Note: Many countries have constitutional provisions which determine the status of treaties in the national law, so that the precise legal implications of becoming party to the CRC will vary from State to State. In general, the approach of States to treaties can be divided into the transformation approach and the incorporation approach. The latter approach means that once the requirements for ratification have been satisfied, the CRC itself becomes automatically part of the national law.

See also: Applicability / Transformation

Independent and impartial authority

CRC: Art. 37(d); Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)(v)

Note: An independent authority is to be independent of the executive and of the parties. An impartial authority is required to be unprejudiced, disinterested, just and equitable in the relation to the involved parties.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Children deprived of their liberty / Due process / Fair trial / Judicial body / Determination of lawfulness of detention

Indicators

Note: Factors used to measure the domestic implementation of the rights set forth in the CRC.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Domestic implementation

Indigenous children

CRC: Art. 30

Note: According to one definition, indigenous or aboriginal peoples are descendants of those who inhabited a country or geographic region at the time when peoples of different cultures or ethnic origins arrived, the new arrivals later becoming dominant through conquest, occupation, settlement or other means. Under Article 30 of the CRC those States Parties in which indigenous peoples exist shall not deny a child belonging to such a group the right, in community with other members of his or her group, to enjoy his or her own culture, to profess and practise his or her own religion, and to use his or her own language. Noteworthy is the establishment in 1982 of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

See also: Information and linguistic minority children / Minority children

Infant mortality

CRC: Art. 24(2)(a)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to diminish infant mortality.

See also: Child mortality / Health and health services

Information

See: Accusations / Appropriate information / Children's books / Educational guidance / Freedom of expression / Freedom of information / Information and international co-operation / Information and linguistic minority children / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Injurious information / Mass media / Vocational guidance

Information and international co-operation

CRC: Art. 17(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to have access to appropriate information, States Parties are required to encourage international co-operation in the production, exchange and dissemination of information and material of social and cultural benefit to the child from a diversity of cultural, national and international sources.

See also: Appropriate information / Freedom of information / International co-operation

Information and linguistic minority children

CRC: Art. 17(d)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to have access to appropriate information, States Parties are required to encourage the mass media to have particular regard to the linguistic needs of children belonging to a minority or an indigenous group.

See also: Appropriate information / Freedom of information / Indigenous children / Information / Linguistic minority children / Mass media

Information on absent parent(s) or child

CRC: Art. 9(4)

Note: Where separation between parent(s) and child results from any action initiated by a

State Party, such as the detention, imprisonment, exile, deportation, death (including death arising from any cause while the person is in custody of the State) of one or both parents or of the child, States Parties are required to provide the parents, the child or, if appropriate, another member of the family, upon request, with information concerning the whereabouts of the absent member(s) of the family, unless the provision of the information would be detrimental to the well-being of the child.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Detention / Imprisonment / Separation from parent(s)

Informed promptly of criminal charges

See: Accusations

Inhuman treatment or punishment

See: Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Injurious information

CRC: Art. 17(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to have access to appropriate information, States Parties are required to encourage the development of guidelines in order to protect children from information and material injurious to their well-being. Such guidelines should take into account the right of the child to freedom of expression (see Article 13 of the CRC), which includes the right to freedom of information, and that parents, and not the State, have the primary responsibility for the development of children (see Article 18(1) of the CRC).

See also: Appropriate information / Freedom of information / Mass media / Parental responsibilities

Institutions

See: Alternative care / Care of children / Periodic review of placement / Non-custodial measures / Placement in institutions / Protection of children / Standards of care / Standards of protection

Inter-country adoption

CRC: Art. 21

Note: Adoptions where children are brought from one country to live in the country of their adoptive parents. Article 21 of the CRC deals with the safeguards and standards to be ensured by those States Parties that recognize and/or permit the system of adoption as an alternative means of care for a child, covering both national adoption and inter-country adoption, and provides thereby that the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration. Noteworthy are the United Nations Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally (1986) and the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and International Co-operation in respect of Intercountry adoption (1993).

See also: Adoption / Judicial review / National adoption / Procedures

Intergovernmental organizations

Note: Under Article 45(a) of the CRC, the Committee on the Rights of the Child may invite the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund, and other competent bodies as it may consider appropriate, including inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, to provide expert advice on the implementation of the CRC in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. The Committee may also transmit to such competent bodies, as it considers appropriate, any State reports that request or indicate a need for technical advice or assistance (see Article 45(b) of the CRC).

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Competent bodies / Non-governmental organizations / Technical advice and assistance

Internally displaced children

Note: Children who have fled or have been driven from their communities to other localities within their country or territory. For children forced to leave their home country, use "Refugee children".

International co-operation

CRC: Preamble para. 13; Art. 4; Art. 17(b); Art. 23(4); Art. 24(4); Art. 28(3)

Note: Article 4 of the CRC obligates States Parties to take all appropriate measures for the implementation of the economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the CRC to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international co-operation.

See also: Developing countries / Domestic implementation / Disabled children and international co-operation / Economic, social and cultural rights / Education and international co-operation / Health and international co-operation / Ignorance / Illiteracy / Information and international co-operation / Modern teaching methods / Science and technology / Technical advice and assistance

International humanitarian law

CRC: Art. 22(1); Art. 38(1)(4)

Note: States Parties are required to respect and to ensure respect for rules of international humanitarian law applicable to them in armed conflicts which are relevant to the child. In addition, States Parties are required to take all feasible measures to ensure the protection and care of children who are affected by an armed conflict in accordance with their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect the civilian population in armed conflicts. State obligations under international humanitarian law can be found in human rights treaties and in the following humanitarian treaties: Geneva Convention No. 1 for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (1949); Geneva Convention No. 2 for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (1949); Geneva Convention No. 3 Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War; Geneva Convention No. 4 Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949); Protocol No. 1 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (1977); and Protocol No. 2 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (1977). Provisions of humanitarian treaties which are of particular relevance to children include: Articles 14, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, 38, 49, 50, 51, 68, 76, 81, 82, 89, 94 and 132 of Geneva Convention No. 4 Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949); Articles 8, 70, 74, 75(5), 76(2-3), 77 and 78 of Protocol No. 1 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (1977); and Articles 4(3) and 6(4) of Protocol No. 2 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (1977).

See also: Children in armed conflicts / Humanitarian assistance / Refugee protection

International return of children

See: Illicit transfer and non-return

Judicial body

CRC: Art. 37(d); Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)(v)

Note: A body with judicial power conferred by law, independent of the executive and of the

parties, and with discretionary power to decide, by reference to legal criteria, on controversies over law.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Children deprived of their liberty / Determination of lawfulness of detention / Due process / Fair trial / Independent and impartial authority

Judicial review

CRC: Art. 9(1),(2)

Note: According to Article 9(1), States Parties shall ensure that the child shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will, except when competent authorities, subject to judicial review, determine, in accordance with applicable law and procedures, that such a separation is necessary for the best interests of the child. In any proceedings pursuant to Article 9(1), all interested parties shall be given an opportunity to participate in the proceedings and make their views known (Article 9(2)).

See also: Adoption / Alternative care / Children deprived of a family environment / Intercountry adoption / National adoption / Periodic review of placement / Placement in institution / Respect for the views of the child / Right to be heard / Separation from parent(s)

Jurisdiction

CRC: Art. 2(1)

Note: States Parties are required to respect and to ensure the rights set forth in the CRC to each child within their jurisdiction. Jurisdiction concerns the power of the State to exercise authority affecting people, property and circumstances within its territory and, in accordance with international law, outside its territory.

See also: Obligation of States

Juvenile delinquency

See: Prevention of juvenile delinquency

Juvenile justice

CRC: Art. 40(3)

Note: Justice system applied to a "juvenile": a child or a young person who, under the legal system concerned, is to be dealt with for an offence in a manner which is different from an adult. The age limit used to define a juvenile varies between countries. States Parties are required to promote the establishment of laws, procedures, authorities and institutions specifically applicable to accused and convicted children, in particular the establishment of a minimum age for criminal responsibility and diversions.

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Diversions / Juvenile delinquency / Juvenile offenders / Minimum age for criminal responsibility / Non-custodial measures

Juvenile offenders

Note: A "juvenile" is a child or young person who, under the legal system concerned, is to be dealt with for an offence in a manner which is different from an adult. An "offence" is any behaviour (act or omission) that is punishable by law under the legal system concerned. A "juvenile offender" is a child or young person who is alleged to have committed or who has been found to have committed an offence (see Rule 2.2 of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (1985), otherwise known as the Beijing Rules).

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Juvenile justice / Minimum age for criminal responsibility / Offence

Juveniles deprived of their liberty

See: Children deprived of their liberty

Kafala

CRC: Art. 20(3)

Note: Kafala of Islamic law is an alternative means of care for children deprived of their family environment, for example, abandoned or orphaned children. Under Kafala, a family may take a child to live with them on a permanent, legal basis, but that child is not entitled to use of the family's name or to inherit from the family.

See also: Alternative care / Children deprived of their family environment

Kidnapping

See: Abduction / Illicit transfer and non-return

Know one's parents

CRC: Art. 7(1)

Note: The right of the child to know his or her parents, as far as possible, is recognized in Article 7(1) of the CRC.

See also: Identity / Parental care

Language

See: Assistance of an interpreter / Discrimination / Information and linguistic minority children / Linguistic minority children

Leave a country

CRC: Art. 10

Note: The right to leave any country, which is recognized in Article 12(2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966), is not included in the CRC. The CRC does include the right of the child and parents to leave a State Party for the purposes of family reunification, and the right of the child or parents to leave any country for the purposes of contact with a parent or child residing in a different country. The latter right may be made subject to restrictions.

See also: Contact with both parents / Enter a country / Family reunification / Restrictions of rights

Legal assistance

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(ii)

Note: The right of the accused child to legal or other appropriate assistance in the preparation and presentation of his or her defence is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(ii) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Defence / Due process / Fair trial / Trial in the presence of legal assistance

Leisure

CRC: Art. 31

Note: In recognition of the importance of rest and leisure for the child's development, Article 31 of the CRC obligates States Parties to recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure. For the realization of this right, States Parties are required to encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for leisure activity.

See also: Equal opportunities / Recreation

Liberty of person

See: Deprivation of liberty

Life

See: Right to life

Life imprisonment

CRC: Art. 37(a)

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to life imprisonment without the possibility of release is dealt with in Article 37(a) of the CRC. This provision prohibits States Parties from imposing life imprisonment without the possibility of release for offences committed by persons below the age of eighteen years.

See also: Accused children / Capital punishment / Children deprived of their liberty / Convicted children / Imprisonment

Limitations

See: Restrictions of rights

Linguistic minority children

CRC: Art. 30

Note: A linguistic minority is a group of people within the territory of a State whose language is different from that of the majority. Under Article 30 of the CRC those States Parties in which linguistic minorities exist shall not deny a child belonging to such a minority the right, in community with other members of his or group, to use his or her own language. This right is also recognized in Article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). Noteworthy is the standard-setting work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, including the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1993.

See also: Discrimination / Information and linguistic minority children / Minority children

Maintenance obligations

CRC: Art. 27(2)

Note: States Parties are required to recognize that parent(s) or others responsible for the child have the primary responsibility to secure, within their abilities and financial capacities, the conditions of living necessary for the child's development.

See also: Adequate standard of living / Family assistance / Parental responsibilities / Recovery of maintenance

Majority

CRC: Art. 1

Note: Majority refers to the legal age at which political, economic or other forms of participation begin in various countries. In most countries majority is attained at a certain age. However, in some countries majority can also be attained through, for example, marriage or military service. Under Article 1 of the CRC once a person attains the age of 18 years the provisions of the CRC are no longer automatically applicable to him or her. Recognizing that 18 is not necessarily consonant with the age at which majority is attained in some countries, this provision allows those States Parties in which a child below the age of 18 years can attain majority to retain that age as the upper age limit for the automatic application of the rights set forth in the CRC.

See also: Definition of the child / Minimum age(s)

Malnutrition

CRC: Art. 24(2)(c)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures, including within the framework of primary health care, to combat malnutrition through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking-water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution.

See also: Adequate nutrition / Breast-feeding / Child health and nutrition / Disease / Health and health services / Primary health care

Marriage

See: Child marriage

Mass media

CRC: Art. 17(a)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to have access to appropriate information, States Parties are required to encourage the mass media to disseminate information and material of social and cultural benefit to the child.

See also: Appropriate information / Children's books / Freedom of information / Information and linguistic minority children / Injurious information

Material assistance

CRC: Art. 27(3)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to an adequate standard of living, States Parties are required to provide material assistance and support programmes for families in need, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

See also: Adequate nutrition / Adequate standard of living / Family assistance / Parental responsibilities

Media violence

See: Appropriate information / Injurious information

Medical assistance

CRC: Art. 24(2)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure the provision of necessary medical assistance and health care to all children, with emphasis on the development of primary health care.

See also: Health and health services

Mentally disabled children

See: Disabled children

Minimum age(s)

Note: In most countries minors of a certain age enjoy special legal capacity to act independently in some important matters. Pursuant to Article 1 of the CRC, dealing with the definition of the child, the Committee on the Rights of the Child has requested States Parties to provide relevant information on the legal minimum ages established for various purposes, including, inter alia, legal or medical counselling without parental consent, end of compulsory education, part-time employment, full-time employment, hazardous employment, sexual consent, marriage, voluntary enlistment into the armed forces, conscription into the armed forces, voluntarily giving testimony in court, criminal liability, deprivation of liberty, imprisonment and consumption of alcohol or other controlled substances.

See also: Definition of the child / Majority / Minimum age for criminal responsibility / Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

Minimum age for criminal responsibility

CRC: Art. 40(3)(a)

Note: States Parties are required to promote the establishment of a minimum age below which children shall be presumed not to have the capacity to infringe the penal law. Rule 4 of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (1985), otherwise known as the Beijing Rules, recommends that the beginning of the age of criminal responsibility should not be fixed at too low an age level, bearing in mind the facts of emotional, mental and intellectual maturity of the child.

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Diversions / Juvenile justice / Minimum age(s)

Minimum age(s) for admission to employment

CRC: Art. 32(2)(a)

Note: Article 32(2) of the CRC obligates States Parties to take measures for the implementation of the right of the child to protection against economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be haz-

ardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or development. In particular, States Parties are required, having regard to the relevant provisions of other international instruments, to provide for a minimum age or minimum ages for admission to employment. Relevant provisions of other international instruments include Article 10(3) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966) and Article 7 of the European Social Charter (1961). ILO Convention No. 138 Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973) sets 18 as the minimum age for any employment which is likely to jeopardize a person's health, safety or morals and establishes a general minimum age of 15 for employment. It permits States Parties whose economies and educational facilities are insufficiently developed to set the lower age of 14.

See also: Child labour / Conditions of employment / Economic exploitation / Enforcement of child labour standards / Harmful work / Hazardous work / Hours of employment / Minimum age(s)

Minority children

CRC: Art. 30

Note: A minority is a group of people in minority within the territory of a State. Under Article 30 of the CRC those States Parties in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist shall not deny a child belonging to such a minority the right, in community with other members of his or her group, to enjoy his or her own culture, to profess and practise his or her own religion, or to use his or her own language. This right is also recognized in Article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). Noteworthy is the standard-setting work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, including the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1993.

See also: Discrimination / Ethnic minority children / Indigenous children / Linguistic minority children / Religious minority children

Minors

See: Majority

Modern teaching methods

CRC: Art. 28(3)

Note: Article 28(3) of the CRC obligates States Parties to promote international co-operation in matters relating to education, in particular with a view to facilitating access to modern teaching methods. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Education / Education and international co-operation / International co-operation

Mortality

See: Child mortality / Infant mortality

Name

CRC: Art. 7(1)

Note: The right of the child to a name from birth is recognized in Article 7(1) of the CRC. The purpose of this provision is to promote recognition and protection of the child's legal personality. It is of fundamental importance, as a name is the first point of reference both for the child and society as a means of identifying the child and the child's family. It is therefore of special importance to children born out of wedlock, abandoned children and foundlings.

See also: Birth registration / Children born out of wedlock / Family relations / Identity / Nationality / Preservation of identity

National adoption

CRC: Art. 21

Note: Adoption which does not involve removal of the child across borders. Article 21 of the CRC deals with the safeguards and standards to be ensured by those States Parties that recognize and/or permit the system of adoption as an alternative means of care for a child, covering both national adoption and inter-country adoption, and provides thereby that the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration. Noteworthy is the Declaration on Social and Legal Principles Relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children With Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1986.

See also: Adoption / Inter-country adoption / Judicial review / Procedures

National origin

See: Discrimination

National security

See: Restrictions of rights

Nationality

CRC: Art. 7

Note: The right of the child to acquire a nationality is set forth in Article 7 of the CRC. Some countries apply the principle of jus sanguinis, according to which nationality is founded by descent from parents. Others apply the principle of jus soli, according to which nationality is founded by virtue of being born within the territory of a State.

See also: Family relations / Identity / Name / Preservation of identity / Statelessness

Neglect

CRC: Art. 19

See: Abuse and neglect

Non-custodial measures

CRC: Art. 40(4)

Note: States Parties are required to make alternatives to institutional care available for convicted children, to ensure that these children are dealt with in a manner appropriate to their well-being and proportionate both to their circumstances and the offence. Such non-custodial measures could include, inter alia, care, guidance, supervision orders, counselling, probation, education and vocational training programmes.

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Convicted children / Deprivation of liberty / Detention / Imprisonment / Treatment of convicted children

Non-discrimination

See: Discrimination

Non-governmental organizations

Note: Under Article 45(a) of the CRC, the Committee on the Rights of the Child may invite the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund and other competent bodies as it may consider appropriate, including inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, to provide expert advice on the implementation of the CRC in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. The Committee may also transmit to such bodies, as it considers appropriate, any State reports that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance (see Article 45(b) of the CRC).

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Competent bodies / Inter-governmental organizations / Technical advice and assistance

Nullum crimen sine lege

CRC: Art. 40(2)(a)

Note: Article 40(2)(a) of the CRC accords to

the child the right not to be accused of or recognized as having infringed the penal law by reasons of acts or omissions that were not prohibited by national or international law at the time they were committed.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Convicted children

Nutrition

See: Adequate nutrition / Child health and nutrition / Malnutrition

Obligation of States

CRC: Art. 2(1)

Note: States Parties are required to respect and to ensure the rights set forth in the CRC to each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind.

See also: Definition of the child / Discrimination / Domestic implementation / Jurisdiction / Saving clause

Offence

CRC: Art. 37(a); Art. 40(4)

Note: Any behaviour (act or omission) that is punishable by law under the legal system concerned.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Convicted children / Juvenile offenders

Offenders

See: Accused children / Convicted children / Juvenile offenders

Opinion(s)

See: Discrimination / Freedom of expression / Respect for the views of the child

Organ trafficking

Note: There has been an increased number of as yet unsubstantiated reports of trafficking in children for the sale of their organs. The 1994 report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children states that the search for proof of a trade in children's organs poses great difficulties even though there is evidence of a market in children's organs. The Guiding Principles on Human Organ Transplantation adopted by the World Health Organization (WHO) provide that no organ should be removed from a living child with the exception of the removal of regenerative tissue and that the giving and receiving of payment is prohibited. Provisions of the CRC which imply the prohibition of organ trafficking are Article 6 dealing with the right to life, Article 35 dealing with the right to protection against sale and trafficking, and Article 36 dealing with the right to protection against all forms of exploitation.

See also: Exploitation / Right to life / Sale and trafficking

Orphans

See: Children deprived of their family environment

Parental abuse or neglect

See: Abuse and neglect

Parental authority

See: Parental responsibilities

Parental care

CRC: Art. 7(1)

Note: The right of the child to be cared for by his or her parents, as far as possible, is recognized in Article 7(1) of the CRC.

See also: Know one's parents / Parental guidance / Parental responsibilities

Parental guidance

CRC: Art. 5

Note: States Parties are required to respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child, to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise by the child of the rights recognized in the CRC.

See also: Community / Equality of parents / Evolving capacities of the child / Extended family / Freedom of religion / Parental care / Parental responsibilities

Parental responsibilities

CRC: Art. 18(1); Art. 27(2)

Note: States Parties are required to recognize that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child. In addition, States Parties are required to recognize that parent(s) or others responsible for the child have the primary responsibility to secure, with their abilities and financial capacities, the conditions of living necessary for the child's development.

See also: Equality of parents / Family assistance / Injurious information / Maintenance obligations / Material assistance / Parental care / Parental guidance / Recovery of maintenance

Parents

See: Contact with both parents / Equality of parents / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Know one's parents / Maintenance obligations / Parental care / Parental guidance / Parental responsibilities / Separation from parent(s)

Participation in hostilities

CRC: Art. 38(2)

Note: Children participate in international armed conflicts and non-international armed conflicts directly by engaging in combat or indirectly by seeking and sending military information and transporting food, arms and munitions. States Parties are required to take all feasible measures to ensure that persons who have not attained the age of 15 years do not take a direct part in hostilities. In addition, States Parties are required to refrain from recruiting any person who has not attained the age of 15 years into their armed forces. In recruiting among those persons who have attained the age of 15 years but who have not attained the age of 18 years, States Parties are required to endeavour to give priority to those who are oldest. The minimum ages established in States Parties for the purposes of voluntary enlistment and recruitment into the armed forces are of relevance to these provisions.

See also: Children in armed conflicts / Recruitment

Peaceful assembly

See: Freedom of assembly

Penal procedures

See: Administration of juvenile justice / Due process

Periodic review of placement

CRC: Art. 25

Note: Article 25 of the CRC accords a child who has been placed by the competent authorities for the purposes of care, protection or treatment for his or her physical or mental health the right to a periodic review of the treatment provided to the child and all other circumstances relevant to the child's placement.

See also: Alternative care / Foster placement / Health and health services / Judicial review / Placement in institutions / Procedures

Physically disabled children

See: Disabled children

Placement in institutions

CRC: Art. 20(3)

Note: Article 20(3) of the CRC states that alternative care for children deprived of their family environment could include, inter alia, foster placement, kafala of Islamic law, adoption or, but only if necessary, placement in suitable institutions for the care of children.

See also: Alternative care / Children deprived of their family environment / Judicial review / Periodic review of placement / Procedures

Play

See: Recreation

Political opinion

See: Discrimination

Post-natal health care

CRC: 24(2)(d)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure appropriate post-natal health care for mothers.

See also: Health and health services / Pre-natal health care

Pre-natal health care

CRC: Art. 24(2)(d)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure appropriate pre-natal health care for mothers.

See also: Health and health services / Post-natal health care

Preservation of identity

CRC: Art. 8

Note: States Parties are required to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law without unlawful interference. The purpose of this right is to promote recognition and protection of the child's legal personality. Where a child is illegally deprived of some or all of the elements of his or her identity, States Parties are required to provide appropriate assistance and protection, with a view to speedily re-establishing his or her identity.

See also: Birth registration / Disappearances / Family relations / Name / Nationality / Statelessness

Presumption of innocence

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(i)

Note: The right of the accused child to be presumed innocent until proven guilty according to law is set forth in Article 40(2)(b)(i) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Due process / Fair trial / Self-incriminating evidence

Prevention of juvenile delinquency

Note: Article 40 of the CRC accords protection to children in conflict with the law. The international community has also recognized the need to develop national, regional and international approaches and strategies to prevent children coming into conflict with the law. See in this regard General Assembly resolution 40/35 entitled Development of Standards for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (1985) and the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, otherwise known as the Riyadh Guidelines (1990).

See also: Administration of juvenile justice

Preventive health care

CRC: Art. 24(2)(f)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties shall take appropriate measures to develop preventive health care.

See also: Disease / Health and health services / Health care

Primary education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(a)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to make primary education compulsory and available free to all.

See also: Compulsory education / Education / Free education

Primary health care

CRC: Art. 24(2)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to health services, States Parties are required to take appropriate measures to ensure the provision of necessary medical assistance and health care to all children, with emphasis on the development of primary health care. According to Principle 7 of the Declaration of Alma-Ata (1978), primary health care includes at least: education concerning prevailing health problems and the methods of preventing and controlling them; promotion of food supply and proper nutrition; an adequate supply of safe water and basic sanitation; maternal and child health care, including family planning; immunization against the major infectious diseases; prevention and control of locally endemic diseases; appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries; and provision of essential drugs.

See also: Disease / Health and health services / Health care / Malnutrition

Prison conditions

See: Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Non-custodial measures / Standards of care / Standards of protection / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of convicted children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Torture

Privacy

CRC: Art. 16

Note: Article 16 accords to the child the right not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference.

See also: Correspondence / Honour and reputation / Privacy of accused children / Respect for family / Respect for home

Privacy of accused children

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(vii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have his or her privacy fully respected at all stages of the proceedings is set forth in Article 40(2)(b)(vii) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Privacy / Treatment of accused children

Private schools

See: Educational institutions

Procedures

CRC: Art. 9 (1)(2); Art 21(a)

Note: According to Article 9(1), States Parties shall ensure that the child shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will, except when competent authorities, subject to judicial review, determine, in accordance with applicable law and procedures, that such a separation is necessary for the best interests of the child. In any proceedings pursuant to Article 9(1), all interested parties shall be given an opportunity

to participate in the proceedings and make their views known (Article 9(2)). Article 21(a) of the CRC requires that the adoption of a child be authorized only by competent authorities acting in accordance with the applicable laws and procedures of their country.

See also: Adoption / Alternative care / Children deprived of a family environment / Intercountry adoption / National adoption / Periodic review of placement / Placement in institutions / Respect for the views of the child / Right to be heard / Separation from parent(s)

Prompt legal assistance

CRC: Art. 37(d)

Note: The right of every child deprived of his or her liberty to prompt access to legal and other appropriate assistance is recognized in Article 37(d) of the CRC.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Determination of lawfulness of detention

Prompt trial

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have a speedy trial without undue delay is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iii) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Determination of lawfulness of detention

Property

See: Discrimination

Prostitution

See: Child prostitution

Protection of children

CRC: Art. 3(2)

Note: States Parties are required to ensure the child such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her.

See also: Care of children / Standards of protection

Public health or morals

See: Restrictions of rights

Public order

See: Restrictions of rights

Public safety

See: Restrictions of rights

Punishment

See: Cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment / Discrimination and punishment / Non-custodial measures / School discipline / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Racial discrimination

See: Discrimination

Ratification

CRC: Art. 47

Note: Article 47 of the CRC provides that the CRC is subject to ratification, and Article 48 provides that the CRC remains open for accession by any State. To become a Party to the CRC, a State must therefore either ratify or accede to the CRC. Ratification and accession both refer to the act whereby the competent authorities of the State express their consent to be bound by the CRC. The only difference is that ratification applies to those States that have signed the CRC and accession applies to those States that have not. The instruments of ratification or accession are to be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. As at 10 March 1995, the CRC had been ratified or acceded to by 170 States.

See also: Accession / Denunciation / Depositary / Entry into force / Signature

Recovery and reintegration

CRC: Art. 39

Note: States Parties are required to take all appropriate measures to promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of a child victim of any form of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, of torture or any other form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, or of armed conflicts.

See also: Abduction / Abuse and neglect / Child pornography / Child prostitution / Children in armed conflicts / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Drug production / Drug trafficking / Economic exploitation / Exploitation / Sale and trafficking / Sexual exploitation / Torture

Recovery of maintenance

CRC: Art. 27(4)

Note: Article 27(4) of the CRC obligates States Parties to take all appropriate measures to secure the recovery of maintenance for the child from the parents or other persons having financial responsibility for the child, both within the State Party and from abroad, including accession to or conclusion of international instruments concerning recovery of maintenance from abroad. Existing international treaties include: the Hague Convention on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations Towards Children (1956); the Hague Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions Relating to Maintenance Obligations (1973); and the Inter-American Convention on Support Obligations (1989).

See also: Illicit transfer and non-return / Maintenance obligations / Parental responsibilities

Recreation

CRC: Art. 31

Note: Article 31 of the CRC accords to the child the right to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child. States Parties are required to encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for recreational activity.

See also: Equal opportunities / Leisure

Recruitment

CRC: Art. 38(3)

Note: States Parties are required to refrain from recruiting any person who has not attained the age of 15 years into their armed forces. In recruiting among those persons who have attained the age of 15 years but who have not attained the age of 18 years, States Parties are required to endeavour to give priority to those who are oldest. The minimum ages established in States Parties for the purposes of recruitment and voluntary enlistment into the armed forces is of relevance to this provision. Article 77(2) of Protocol No. 1 Additional to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (1977) and Article 4(3)(c) of Protocol No. 2 Additional to the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (1977) also deal with the recruitment of children into the armed forces.

See also: Children in armed conflicts / Participation in hostilities

Refugee-assisting organizations

CRC: Art. 22(2)

Note: States Parties are required to provide, as they consider appropriate, co-operation in any efforts by the United Nations and other competent intergovernmental organizations or non-governmental organizations co-operating with the United Nations to protect and assist

refugee children, including the tracing of the parents or other family members of any refugee child in order to obtain information necessary for family reunification.

See also: Family tracing / Refugee children / Refugee protection / United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Refugee children

CRC: Art. 22

Note: Article 22 of the CRC accords special rights to refugee children. Under this provision, refugee children are defined as children who are seeking refugee status outside the country of their nationality or former habitual residence or who are considered a refugee in accordance with applicable international or domestic law and procedures, whether unaccompanied or accompanied by their parents or by any other person. States Parties are required to ensure that such children receive appropriate protection and humanitarian assistance in the enjoyment of applicable rights set forth in the CRC and in other human rights or humanitarian treaties to which States Parties to the CRC are also Parties (see "Refugee protection"). In cases where no parents or family members of a refugee child can be traced, the child shall be accorded the same protection as any other child permanently or temporarily deprived of his or her family environment, as set forth in Article 20 of the CRC.

See also: Accompanied refugee children / Family reunification / Family tracing / Humanitarian assistance / Refugee-assisting organizations / Refugee protection / Refugee status / Unaccompanied refugee children / United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Refugee protection

CRC: Art. 22

Note: The 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, the OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa (1969) and the Cartagena Declaration (1984) play an important role in the international system of refugee protection. The mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is to provide international protection to refugees under the auspices of the United Nations and, together with governments, to seek permanent solutions to their problems. Article 22 of the CRC deals with the protection of refugee children, and obligates States Parties to ensure that these children receive appropriate protection and humanitarian assistance in the enjoyment of applicable rights set forth in the CRC and in other international human rights or humanitarian treaties to which States Parties are also Parties.

See also: Humanitarian assistance / International humanitarian law / Refugee-assisting organizations / Refugee children / Refugee status / United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Refugee status

CRC: Art. 22(1)

Note: The 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees define a refugee regardless of age, and make no special provision for the status of refugee children. They obligate States Parties to apply the criterion of well-founded fear of persecution for granting refugee status. Applying this criterion to children does not normally give rise to any problem when, as in the majority of cases, they are accompanied by their parent(s). Determining the refugee status of unaccompanied children is more difficult and requires special consideration. Depending on the law of the State, a child seeking asylum may be granted: refugee status for having a well-founded fear of being persecuted, as defined in the aforementioned 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol; refugee status as defined in the OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa (1969); or refugee status as defined in the Cartagena Declaration (1984). If the refugee claim is denied, the child might be permitted to stay with an immigration status granted for another humanitarian reason, or receive a rejection or deportation order. Important to note is that Article 22 of the CRC accords protection not only to children who have been granted refugee status in host States Parties, but also to children who are seeking refugee status.

See also: Accompanied refugee children / Refugee children / Refugee protection / Unaccompanied refugee children

Rehabilitation

See: Health and health services / Non-custodial measures / Recovery and reintegration / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Religion

See: Discrimination / Freedom of religion / Religious minority children

Religious minority children

CRC: Art. 30

Note: A religious minority is a group of people of common religion or belief in minority within the territory of a State. Under Article 30 of the CRC those States Parties in which religious minorities exist shall not deny a child belonging to such a minority the right, in community with other members of his or her group, to profess and practise his or her own religion. This right is also recognized in Article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). Noteworthy is the standard-setting work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, including the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1993.

See also: Discrimination / Freedom of religion / Minority children

Reporting obligations

CRC: Art. 44

Note: States Parties to the CRC are required to submit to the Committee on the Rights of the Child reports on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognized in the CRC and on the progress made on the enjoyment of those rights, within two years of the entry into force of the CRC for the State Party concerned, and thereafter every five years.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Dissemination of reports / Domestic implementation

Reputation

See: Honour and reputation

Reservations

CRC: Art. 51

Note: Article 2(1)(d) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969) defines a reservation as "a unilateral statement, however phrased or named, made by a state, when signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to a treaty, whereby it purports to exclude or modify the legal effect of certain provisions of the treaty in their application to that state". Reservations must be distinguished from other statements made with regard to a treaty that are not intended to have the legal effect of a reservation, such as understandings, political statements and interpretative declarations. Most treaties declare their positions as regards reservations. Some specify that reservations

are possible with regard to certain provisions only, while others prohibit altogether any reservations. The CRC provides in Article 51 that reservations may be made by States at the time of ratification or accession, and shall be received and circulated to all States by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the CRC shall not be permitted. The rules of international treaty law concerning reservations are set forth in Articles 19 to 23 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969).

See also: Amendments / Denunciation / Depositary

Resources

See: Domestic implementation

Respect for family

CRC: Art. 16

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her family and the right to the protection of the law against such interference are set forth in Article 16 of the CRC.

See also: Family relations / Family reunification / Privacy / Separation from parent(s)

Respect for home

CRC: Art. 16

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her home and the right to the protection of the law against such interference are set forth in Article 16 of the CRC.

See also: Privacy

Respect for the views of the child

CRC: Art. 12

Note: Article 12 of the CRC accords to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child and the right to have those views taken into account in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.

See also: Best interests of the child / Discrimination / Evolving capacities of the child / Freedom of expression / Judicial review / Procedures / Right to be heard

Rest

See: Leisure

Restrictions of rights

CRC: Art. 10(2); Art. 13(2); Art. 14(3); Art. 15(2)

Note: States Parties are only permitted to limit or restrict the enjoyment by the child of the rights set forth in the CRC where the relevant specific rights provision so allows. Such restrictions must be prescribed by law and be necessary on the basis of one or more of the grounds mentioned in the provision, such as the protection of national security or of public order.

See also: Freedom of assembly / Freedom of association / Freedom of expression / Freedom of religion / Leave a country

Return of children

See: Illicit transfer and non-return

Review

See: Administration of juvenile justice / Appeal / Judicial review / Procedures

Right to be heard

CRC: Art 9(2); Art. 12(2)

Note: The right of the child to be provided the opportunity to be heard in any judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child, either in person, or through a representative or other appropriate body.

See also: Judicial review / Procedures / Respect for the views of the child / Separation from parent(s)

Right to life

CRC: Art. 6

Note: The right to life is recognized in Article 6 of the CRC. In its General Comments on Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966), the Human Rights Committee stated that States Parties should undertake measures not only to prevent deprivation of life by criminal acts, but also to prevent arbitrary killing by their own security forces. In addition, the Committee noted that the right to life cannot properly be understood in a restrictive manner, and that the protection of this right requires that States adopt positive measures, including all possible measures to reduce infant mortality and to increase life expectancy, especially in adopting measures to eliminate malnutrition and epidemics.

See also: Capital punishment / Organ trafficking / Survival and development

Sale and trafficking

CRC: Art. 35

Note: According to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, (inter-country) adoption, forced labour and sexual exploitation are the three main practices in relation to which the sale and trafficking of children occurs. There has also been an increased number of as yet unsubstantiated reports of trafficking in children for the sale of their organs. The right of the child to protection against the sale of or traffic in children is set forth in Article 35 of the CRC. States Parties are required to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form.

See also: Abduction / Exploitation / Organ trafficking / Recovery and reintegration / Slavery

Saving clause

CRC: Art. 41

Note: The saving clause enshrined in Article 41 of the CRC is intended to safeguard for children the protection of higher standards and additional rights incorporated in the law of States Parties or in other regional and international treaties to which States Parties are also Parties.

See also: Domestic implementation / Obligation of States

School attendance

CRC: Art. 28(1)(e)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to take measures to encourage regular attendance at schools.

See also: Drop-out rates / Education

School discipline

CRC: Art. 28(2)

Note: States Parties are required to take all appropriate measures to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child's human dignity and in conformity with the CRC.

See also: Abuse and neglect / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Education

Science and technology

CRC: Art. 28(3)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to promote international co-operation in matters relating to education, in particular with a view to facilitating access to scientific and technical knowledge. In this regard, States Parties are required to take particular account of

the needs of developing countries.

See also: Developing countries / Education / Education and international co-operation / International co-operation

Secondary education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to encourage the development of different forms of secondary education, including general and vocational education, and to make them available and accessible to every child through, for example, the introduction of free education and offering financial assistance in case of need.

See also: Education / Education assistance / Free education / General education / Vocational education

Self-executing provisions

See: Applicability

Self-incriminating evidence

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iv)

Note: The right of the accused child not to be compelled to give testimony or to confess guilt is set forth in Article 40(2)(b)(iv) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Presumption of innocence

Sentencing of children

See: Capital punishment / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / Life imprisonment / Non-custodial measures / Torture / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Separation from adult prisoners

CRC: Art. 37(c)

Note: The right of every child deprived of his or her liberty to be separated from adults, unless it is considered in the child's best interests not to do so, is set forth in Article 37(c) of the CRC.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

Separation from parent(s)

CRC: Art. 9

Note: Article 9(1) of the CRC accords to the child the right not to be separated from his or her parents against their will, except when competent authorities subject to judicial review determine, in accordance with applicable law and procedures, that such separation is necessary for the best interests of the child, for example, in cases of abuse and neglect or where parents are divorced or living separately.

See also: Contact with both parents / Family reunification / Illicit transfer and non-return / Information on absent parent(s) or child / Judicial review / Procedures / Respect for family / Right to be heard

Separation of parents

See: Contact with both parents / Separation from parent(s)

Sex discrimination

See: Discrimination

Sexual abuse

CRC: Art. 19(1); Art. 34

Note: The right of the child to protection against sexual abuse while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child is recognized in Article 19 of the CRC. In addition, under Article 34, States Parties are required to protect the child from all forms of sexual abuse by other persons, including the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity.

See also: Abuse and neglect / Sexual exploitation

Sexual exploitation

CRC: Art. 34

Note: The right of the child to protection against all forms of sexual exploitation, including child pornography and child prostitution, is set forth in Article 34 of the CRC.

See also: Child pornography / Child prostitution / Exploitation / Recovery and reintegration / Sexual abuse

Signature

CRC: Art. 46

Note: Article 46 of the CRC provides that the CRC shall be open for signature by all States. Signature of the CRC by State representatives normally precedes ratification. It does not mean that States have given their consent to be bound by the CRC. According to Articles 48 and 49 of the CRC, only ratification or accession have that effect. However, signature does obligate States to refrain from any acts which would defeat the object and purpose of the CRC, until they have made their intention clear not to become Parties to the CRC (see Article 18 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969)).

See also: Accession / Depositary / Ratification

Slavery

Note: Slavery is the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised (Article 1 of the Slavery Convention (1926)). Slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery are prohibited under all of the major global and regional human rights treaties (see Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948); Article 8 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966); Article 6 of the American Convention on Human Rights (1969); Article 5 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981); and Article 4 of the European Convention on Human Rights (1950)), and under the Slavery Convention (1926) and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956). Of particular relevance to children are bonded labour or debt bondage and specific aspects of child trafficking.

See also: Bonded labour / Child labour / Economic exploitation / Exploitation / Forced labour / Sale and trafficking / Slavery

Social insurance

CRC: Art. 26

Note: The right of every child to benefit from social security, including social insurance, is recognized in Article 26 of the CRC.

See also: Family assistance / Social security

Social origin

See: Discrimination

Social rights

See: Economic, social and cultural rights

Social security

CRC: Art. 26

Note: The right of every child to benefit from social security, including social insurance, is recognized in Article 26 of the CRC.

See also: Family assistance / Social insurance

Specialized agencies

See: United Nations specialized agencies

Standard of living

See: Adequate standard of living

Standards of care

CRC: Art. 3(3)

Note: States Parties are required to ensure that the institutions, services and facilities responsible for the care of children shall conform with the standards established by competent authorities, in particular in the areas of safety, health, the number and suitability of staff and competent supervision.

See also: Child-care / Care of children / Standards of protection

Standards of protection

CRC: Art. 3(3)

Note: States Parties are required to ensure that the institutions, services and facilities responsible for the protection of children shall conform with the standards established by competent authorities, in particular in the areas of safety, health, the number and suitability of staff and competent supervision.

See also: Protection of children / Standards of care

State Party

See: Accession / Domestic implementation / Obligation of States / Ratification / Reporting obligations

Statelessness

CRC: Art. 7(2)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to acquire a nationality, States Parties are required to promote the prevention of statelessness of children.

See also: Nationality / Preservation of identity

Status

See: Birth registration / Definition of the child / Discrimination / Identity / Majority / Minimum age(s) / Name

Summary executions

See: Right to life

Survival and development

CRC: Art. 6(2)

Note: The right of the child to survival and development is recognized in Article 6(2) of the CRC. States Parties are required to ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child. The right of the child to survival and development is closely linked to the rights of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, to health services, and to an adequate standard of living. Within the United Nations context, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, measures to ensure "survival" include growth monitoring, oral rehydration and disease control, breastfeeding, immunization, child spacing, food and female literacy. Consider also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children. These Declarations were adopted at the World Summit for Children, which was held at United Nations Headquarters on 30 September 1990.

See also: Adequate nutrition / Adequate standard of living / Health and health services / Right to life

Technical advice and assistance

CRC: Art. 45(b)

Note: The Centre for Human Rights, located at the United Nations Office at Geneva, acts as the Secretariat of the United Nations on human rights issues. One of its principal tasks is the administering of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights. This programme aims to improve the effective enjoyment of human rights through concrete projects designed to strengthen regional and national human rights infrastructures including democratic institutions. Such projects range from the provision of advice to Governments on domestic human rights legislation to the translation and dissemination of major human rights conventions into local languages. These activities are directed at fostering a climate conducive to respect for human rights, thereby furthering the application of international norms and standards which have been formulated within the United Nations. The Voluntary Fund for Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights provides additional financial support. Article 45(b) of the CRC complements this programme of advisory services and technical assistance by providing that the Committee on the Rights of the Child shall transmit, as it may consider appropriate, to the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other competent bodies, any State reports that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Competent bodies / Developing countries / Inter-governmental organizations / International co-operation / Non-governmental organizations / United Nations Children's Fund / United Nations specialized agencies

Testimony or confession of guilt

See: Self-incriminating evidence

Thought

See: Freedom of conscience

Torture

CRC: Art. 37(a)

Note: The right of the child not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is set forth in Article 37(a) of the CRC. The aim of this provision is to protect both the dignity and the physical and mental integrity of the child. Noteworthy are the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984), the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1987) and the Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture (1985).

See also: Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / Recovery and reintegration / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Trade unions

Note: The right of the child to freedom of association is set forth in Article 15 of the CRC, but does not explicitly mention the right of the child to form and join trade unions. However, during the drafting of this provision, the view was expressed that it should be recognized that older children, particularly children above the legal minimum age for admission to employment, have the right to join trade unions.

See also: Child labour / Enforcement of child labour standards / Freedom of association

Traditional practices

CRC: Art. 24(3)

Note: States Parties are required to take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children. Such practices include all harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation, or female circumcision, son preference, female infanticide, early marriage and dowry, early pregnancy, nutritional taboos and certain practices related to child delivery. Consider the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children, prepared by the second United Nations Regional Seminar on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children, held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 4

to 8 July 1994, and adopted by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in its resolution 1994/30 of 26 August 1994.

See also: Health and health services

Trafficking and sale

See: Sale and trafficking

Transformation

Note: Many countries have constitutional provisions which determine the status of treaties in the national law, so that the precise legal implications of becoming party to the CRC will vary from State to State. In general, the approach of States to treaties can be divided into the transformation approach and the incorporation approach. States Parties which follow the transformation approach use the provisions of the CRC as the basis for enacting appropriate national legislative rules. Therefore, if a child wishes to invoke articles of the CRC in a national court or before an administrative tribunal the child relies upon the corresponding national provision and not on the article of the CRC itself.

See also: Applicability / Incorporation

Treatment and punishment

See: Abuse and neglect / Capital punishment / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / Life imprisonment / School discipline / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Treatment of accused children

CRC: Art. 40(1)

Note: The right of the accused child to appropriate treatment is recognized in Article 40(1) of the CRC. States Parties are required to ensure that such a child is treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child's sense of dignity and worth, which reinforces the child's respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others and which takes into account the child's age and the desirability of promoting the child's reintegration and the child's assuming a constructive role in society.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / Privacy of accused children / Torture / Trial in the presence of parents / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty / Treatment of convicted children

Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

CRC: Art. 37(c)

Note: The right of every child deprived of his or her liberty to appropriate treatment is recognized in Article 37(c) of the CRC. States Parties are required to ensure that such a child is treated with humanity and respect for the inherent dignity of the human person, and in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age. The right to appropriate treatment includes the right to be separated from adult prisoners, unless it is considered in the child's best interests not to do so, and the right to maintain contact with family members through visits and correspondence, save in exceptional circumstances.

See also: Children deprived of their liberty / Correspondence / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / Separation from adult prisoners / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of convicted children

Treatment of convicted children

CRC: Art. 40(1)

Note: The right of the convicted child to appropriate treatment is recognized in Article 40(1) of the CRC. States Parties are required to ensure that such a child is treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child's sense of dignity and worth, which reinforces the child's respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others and which takes into account the child's age and the desirability of promoting the child's reintegration and the child's assuming a constructive role in society.

See also: Administration of juvenile justice / Convicted children / Cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment / Discrimination and punishment / Torture / Treatment of accused children / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

Trial

See: Access to court / Determination of lawfulness of detention / Prompt trial

Trial in the presence of legal assistance

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have the matter determined by a competent, independent and impartial authority or judicial body in the presence of legal or other assistance is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iii) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Defence / Due process / Fair trial / Legal assistance / Trial in the presence of parents

Trial in the presence of parents

CRC: Art. 40(2)(b)(iii)

Note: The right of the accused child to have the matter determined by a competent, independent and impartial authority or judicial body in the presence of his or her parents or legal guardians, unless it is considered not to be in the best interests of the child, is recognized in Article 40(2)(b)(iii) of the CRC.

See also: Accused children / Administration of juvenile justice / Treatment of accused children / Trial in the presence of legal assistance

Trial without delay

See: Prompt trial

Truancy

See: School attendance

Unaccompanied refugee children

CRC: Art. 22

Note: Article 22 of the CRC accords special rights to children who are seeking refugee status outside the country of their nationality or former habitual residence or who are considered a refugee in accordance with applicable international or domestic law and procedures, whether accompanied or unaccompanied by their parents or by any other person.

See also: Accompanied refugee children / Children deprived of their family environment / Family reunification / Family tracing / Refugee children / Refugee status

Unborn child

CRC: Preamble para. 9

Note: Article 1 of the CRC defines who is to be considered a "child" for the purposes of the CRC, but does not address the question of a lower age limit. The intent of the drafters was to maintain maximum flexibility in this regard so as to enable potential States Parties to the CRC to adopt whatever position they wished, for the purposes of their own domestic law, on the issue of the right to life of the foetus or unborn child. Thus, while recognizing in paragraph 9 of the preamble that the unborn child is deserving of appropriate protection, its right to life per se is not recognized in the CRC (see Article 6 of the CRC).

See also: Definition of the child

United Nations Children's Fund

CRC: Art. 45(a)(b)

Note: In order to foster the effective implementation of the CRC and to encourage international co-operation in the field covered by the CRC, the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other United Nations organs are entitled to be represented at the consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child of the implementation of such provisions of the CRC as fall within the scope of their mandate. The specialized agencies, UNICEF and other competent bodies may also be invited by the Committee to provide expert advice and to submit reports on the implementation of the CRC in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. In addition, any State reports that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance may be transmitted by the Committee to such bodies.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Competent bodies / Technical advice and assistance / United Nations organs

United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

See: Committee on the Rights of the Child

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Note: Article 22(2) of the CRC obligates States Parties to provide, as they consider appropriate, co-operation in any efforts by the United Nations and other competent intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations co-operating with the United Nations to protect and assist refugee children. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is the main organ of the United Nations dealing with refugees. The mandate of the High Commissioner is to provide international protection to refugees under the auspices of the United Nations and, together with governments, to seek permanent solutions to their problems. In August 1988 the UNHCR issued the first edition of the "Guidelines on Refugee Children", which was updated in 1994. These Guidelines, which define the objectives, principles and practical measures for the protection and assistance of refugee children, take the provisions of the CRC into account.

See also: Family tracing / Refugee-assisting organizations / Refugee children / Refugee protection / United Nations organs

United Nations organs

CRC: Art. 45(a)(b)

Note: In order to foster the effective implementation of the CRC and to encourage international co-operation in the field covered by the CRC, the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other United Nations organs are entitled to be represented at the consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child of the implementation of such provisions of the CRC as fall within the scope of their mandate. The specialized agencies, UNICEF and other competent bodies may also be invited by the Committee to provide expert advice and to submit reports on the implementation of the CRC in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. In addition, any State reports that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance may be transmitted by the Committee to such bodies. United Nations organs concerned with human rights include the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat. Other United Nations bodies in the field of human rights include the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the treaty-monitoring bodies and the Centre for Human Rights.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Competent bodies / Economic and Social Council / General Assembly / United Nations Children's Fund / United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees / United Nations specialized agencies

United Nations specialized agencies

CRC: Art. 45(a)(b)

Note: In order to foster the effective implementation of the CRC and to encourage international co-operation in the field covered by the CRC, the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other United Nations organs are entitled to be represented at the consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child of the implementation of such provisions of the CRC as fall within the scope of their mandate. The specialized agencies, UNICEF and other competent bodies may also be invited by the Committee to provide expert advice and to submit reports on the implementation of the CRC in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. In addition, any State reports that contain a request, or indicate a need, for technical advice or assistance may be transmitted by the Committee to such bodies. The specialized agencies of the United Nations concerned with human rights include: the International Labour Organization (ILO); the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); and the World Health Organization (WHO).

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / Competent bodies / Technical advice and assistance / United Nations organs

United Nations studies

CRC: Art. 45(c)

Note: In order to foster the effective implementation of the CRC and to encourage international co-operation in the field covered by the CRC, the Committee on the Rights of the Child may recommend to the General Assembly of the United Nations to request the Secretary-General to undertake on its behalf studies on specific issues relating to the rights of the child.

See also: Committee on the Rights of the Child / General Assembly

Victims

See: Recovery and reintegration

Views

See: Discrimination / Freedom of expression / Respect for the views of the child / Right to be heard

Visitation rights

See: Contact with both parents / Treatment of children deprived of their liberty

Vocational education

CRC: Art. 28(1)(b)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are required to encourage the development of different forms of secondary education, including vocational education, and to make them available and accessible to every child through, for example, the introduction of free education and offering financial assistance in case of need.

See also: Education / General education / Secondary education / Vocational guidance

Vocational guidance

CRC: Art. 28(1)(d)

Note: For the implementation of the right of the child to education, States Parties are

required to make vocational information and guidance available and accessible to all children.

See also: Education / Educational guidance / Vocational education

Wars

See: Children in armed conflicts

Welfare

See: Social security

Well-being

See: Care of children / Protection of children

Witnesses

See: Examination of witnesses / Right to be heard

Work

See: Child labour / Economic exploitation / Harmful work / Hazardous work

Working conditions

See: Conditions of employment

Working hours

See: Hours of employment

Working parents

See: Childcare

GLOSSARY ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Appendix

Thematic Listing of Selected International Instruments Relevant to Children's Rights

Children's rights

Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1924)
Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1950)
United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959)
European Social Charter (1961)
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)
American Convention on Human Rights (1969)
Declaration of the Rights and Welfare of the African Child (1979)
African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981)
United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990)
European Charter on the Rights of the Child (1992)
European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights (1995)

Basic health and welfare

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)
Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)
WHO and UNICEF Declaration of Alma-Ata (1978)
WHO International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes (1981)
European Recommendation on the Fight Against Drug Abuse and Trafficking (1984)
World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children (1990)
Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children (1990)

Child justice and deprivation of liberty

United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (Beijing Rules) (1985)
United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (1990)
United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (1990)
United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Custodial Measures (Tokyo Rules) (1990)

Children in armed conflicts and refugee children

Geneva Convention No.4 Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949)
Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1950)
Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples (1965)
Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and Protocol (1967)
Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict (1974)
Geneva Protocol No.1 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (1977)
Geneva Protocol No.2 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (1977)
Council of Europe Recommendation regarding Conscientious Objection to Compulsory Military Service (1987)
UNHCR Guidelines on Refugee Children (1988)

Child work and exploitation of children

International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children (1921), amended by Protocol (1947)
Slavery Convention (1926)
ILO Convention No.29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour (1930)
ILO Convention No.77 on Medical Examination of Young Persons (Industry) (1946)
ILO Convention No.78 on Medical Examination of Young Persons (Non-Industrial Occupations) (1946)
ILO Convention No.79 on Night Work of Young Persons (Non-Industrial Occupations) (1946)
ILO Convention No.90 on Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) (Revised) (1948)
Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (1949)
Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956)
ILO Convention No.105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour (1957)
Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)
Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)
ILO Convention No.138 Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973)
European Recommendation on the Fight Against Drug Abuse and Trafficking (1984)
Inter-American Convention on International Traffic in Minors (1994)

Civil rights and freedoms

Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954)
Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961)
Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (1962)
Recommendation on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (1965)
European Convention on the Legal Status of Children Born out of Wedlock (1975)
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984)
European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1987)

Education, leisure and cultural activities

UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960)
Protocol Instituting a Conciliation and Good Offices Commission to be Responsible for Seeking a Settlement of any Disputes which may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education (1962)
UNESCO Recommendation Concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education Relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1974)
European Community Directive on the Education of the Children of Migrant Workers (1977)

Family environment and alternative care

Hague Convention on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations Towards Children (1956)
Hague Convention Concerning the Powers of Authorities and the Law Applicable in Respect of the Protection of Infants (1961)
Hague Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law and Recognition of Decrees Relating to Adoptions (1965)

European Convention on the Adoption of Children (1967)

Hague Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions Relating to Maintenance Obligations (1973)

Council of Europe Resolution on Placement of Children (1977)

European Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions Concerning Custody of Children and on Restoration of Custody of Children (1980)

Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (1980)

Council of Europe Recommendation on Payment by the State of Advances on Child Maintenance (1982)

Council of Europe Recommendation on Parental Responsibilities (1984)

Inter-American Convention on the Conflict of Laws Concerning the Adoption of Minors (1984)

United Nations Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally (1986)

Council of Europe Recommendation on Foster Families (1987)

Inter-American Convention on Support Obligations (1989)

Inter-American Convention on the Return of Children (1989)

Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Intercountry Adoption (1993)